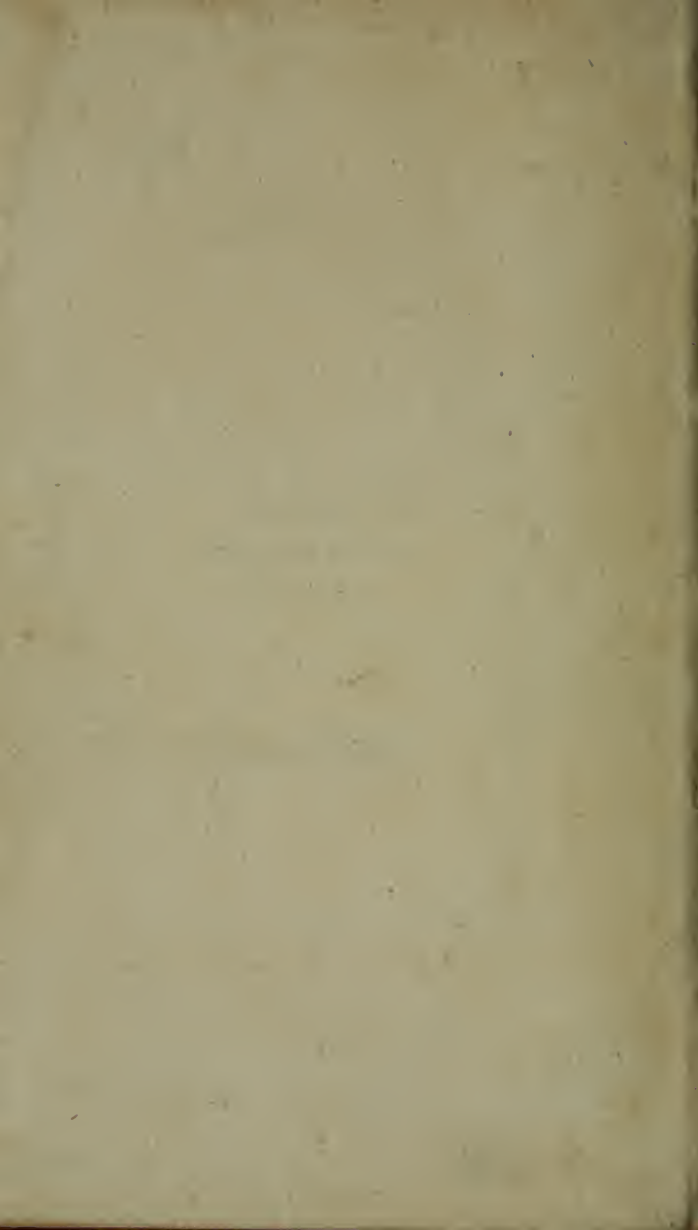


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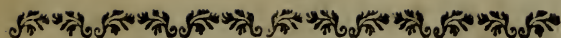
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THE
BRITISH NOVELIST:
OR,
VIRTUE AND VICE
IN
MINIATURE.

V O L I.



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VOLUME the FIRST,
Containing the ADVENTURES of RODERICK RANDOM,
JOSEPH ANDREWS, and DAVID SIMPLE.

L O N D O N :
Printed for J. FRENCH, No. 28, in the *Poultry*.
1774.

P R E F A C E.

IT was a maxim among the antients, that instruction never made a more lasting impresson, than when conveyed by examples taken from real life. That great philosopher Socrates advised his scholars to study men by their actions, and not by their professions or pretensions. To answer so valuable a purpose, many excellent writers have attended to the virtues and vices of both sexes, and have given us faithful representations of them.

These, however, with the many episodes, digressions, and remarks, have

ii P R E F A C E.

have swelled to such a number of volumes, that few ordinary readers can either find money to purchase, or time to read them. But a still greater disadvantage attending them, is, that the abstract parts are too heavy and unentertaining to youth, so that, being disgusted with one part, they give up the whole, and lose the most rational instruction.

To make an impression on the youthful mind, a story need only be well told; for the representation of virtue and vice sinks deep in the heart, and inferences occur without any assistance.

To answer so valuable an end this work is now offered to the public, on the most liberal and extensive plan; namely, to present youth in general with all that is valuable in the best writers, who have given us the most animated pictures of human nature. Here the youthful mind will acquire equally as much knowledge as if they perused the originals, and even much more entertainment.

The

P R E F A C E. iii

The manner in which it is proposed to publish it, brings it not only within the compass of every reader, but gives them time to read and digest one volume before they purchase the other; and thus, in the most agreeable manner, become acquainted with the best authors now extant.

THE

T H E
A D V E N T U R E S
O F
R O D E R I C K R A N D O M.

THIS excellent novel, which, even by the connoisseurs, is deemed one of the best in the English language, is the production of that great painter of human nature, the late ingenious Dr. Smollet, who is said to have written it, while a prisoner for debt, in the Fleet. The eighth London edition of this performance was printed in the year 1770; and if we consider the many surreptitious editions which the printing-presses of Scotland, Ireland, and America have given to the world, it must be acknowledged that a taste for genuine humour, and the natural painting of the virtues and vices of mankind, are the characteristicks of the present age.

The hero of this piece is by birth a North Briton, and is generally said to be the author, the
VOL. I. B identical

identical Dr. Smollet, whose amazing vicissitudes of fortune are supposed to be related by himself: nay, it is even pretended that some of the other characters are well known, among which that of *Strap*, the friend and companion of Random, is particularly distinguished. Be this as it may; whether these adventures are to be deemed a genuine history, a mixture of historical truth, and poetical invention, or a mere romance, the discerning reader will confess that it is replete with humour, mirth, and morality: It may, however, be proper to add, that the prevailing opinion is, that the piece has truth for its foundation, and that the heightenings are composed of such materials as were thought proper to amend the heart, or provoke the risibility of the reader.

RODERICK RANDOM was the son of a gentleman who had disoblged the grandfather of our hero, by daring to chuse for himself, in that most important article of life, Marriage. This grandfather of Random was a justice of the peace, a man of great authority among his neighbours and dependants, but of a disposition ill adapted to the mild exercise of that power which is generally the consequence of riches.

The mother of our hero was related to the family, whose poverty obliged her to act as house-keeper to the old gentleman: yet what was denied her by the capricious will of fortune, was amply compensated by the bounteous hand of nature, who had lavished on her whatever excellence might captivate the eye, or charm the heart.

heart. A dream which she had a short time before the birth of our adventurer, discomposed her so much, that she informed a Highland seer of its particulars, which were that she had become the mother of a tennis ball, and which had no sooner made its appearance, than the devil (who officiated as midwife) struck with such violence, that it was instantly invisible, and remained so for a long time; and she despaired of seeing it again, when it flew back with astonishing rapidity, and lodging in the ground near her feet, it grew into a tree, which produced a number of flowers, the flagrant smell of which put an end to her dream; which was thus explained by the wizard: That the expected child would visit remote countries, and undergo great hardships and distress; but finally return to the place of his birth, where he would live in credit, happy in himself, and surrounded by his friends.*

The marriage of Random's parents was kept secret; but it was impossible that it should long remain so; the fondness of the lovers being observed by some busy meddler, the old justice was soon acquainted with it, and instantly proposed marriage to his son, who finding it in vain to dissemble, confessed he was already married to his kinswoman, against whom nothing could possibly be urged but inequality of fortune, which was beneath his notice.

B 2

The

* All this actually happened to Dr. Smollet, who after passing through many vicissitudes of fortune, retired with honour to his native country, but going abroad for the benefit of his health, died at Leghorn, 1773.

The old tyrant complimented his son on his education and abilities, and left him to starve, with the dear object of his choice. Thus situated, the newly married pair retired to the house of a farmer, where they were readily received; but the pregnant lady foreseeing the inconveniences which would attend her being brought-to-bed at that house, formed the resolution of throwing herself at the feet of her father-in-law, and imploring his compassion.

This resolution she kept secret, even from her husband; and having dressed in such a manner that the servants could not know her, she told them an artful tale of her being a woman of rank, ill-used by her husband; which gained her a ready admittance to the justice, who was fond of interposing his authoritative power in matters of this kind.—She now dropt on her knees before him, and besought his pardon for herself, and his compassion for the unborn babe: but he refused to listen to her, under a pretence of a vow he had made, neither to assist her or his son.—Struck to the soul by this instance of barbarity, she was suddenly taken in labour, and delivered of our hero, in the garret of the mansion house, by the friendly aid of a female servant who had long loved her.

Roderick's father being made acquainted with this occurrence, hastened to his beloved wife, and while he pressed the new-born infant to his enraptured bosom, he wept to think in what a place, and in what manner it had seen the light! What must the heart of such a father have felt, on beholding the dear objects of all his love, stretched on a flock-bed, in a garret ill-adapted
to

to defend them from the severities of the weather !

The grandfather could not be ignorant of the late occurrence, though he affected surprize when he was informed of it, by a grandchild, who lived in the house, as his intended heir.—He was, however, resolved to complete his barbarity, and actually turned his daughter-in-law out of the house, within three days after she was delivered ; and also discharged the servant whose humanity had aided her in the hour of distress.

Our hero's father vowed vengeance for this outrage on the rights of humanity ; but, alas ! his vows were vain ; his wife soon fell a sacrifice to grief and despair, and the husband grew delirious at his loss.—While he remained in this state of insensibility, the infant was carried to his grandfather, who, at length, touched with, or feigning the emotions of pity, ordered the child to be taken care of, and the father to be brought to his house, where his fit of insanity soon left him, but only to plunge him into the more profound abyss of extreme despondency ; and it was feared that he put a period to his life, as he suddenly disappeared, and was not heard of till long afterwards.

Roderick soon became a fine boy of his age, and was the idol of the neighbours, on account of the similitude of his person and manners to those of his father ; but their favour-availed little, for the hatred his cousins bore him was an insurmountable bar to his making any interest with the grandfather, whom he never spoke to but by accident, when he was encouraged to be

a good boy, and had a promise of being provided for.

At length he was placed under the tuition of a schoolmaster, who was so absolutely under the dominion of the old justice, that he was obliged to board and instruct him for nothing; and as no allowance was even made for cloathing him, he cut a meaner appearance than any lad in the school, nor was any care taken of his education: yet such was young Random's propensity to learning, that, under all these disadvantages, he soon acquired a tolerable knowledge of Latin, and was able to write a legible hand; and he made use of his acquirements on every occasion, sending frequent letters to his grandfather; who at length sent for the preceptor, whom he upbraided with having put the lad in a way of committing forgery, and said that his blood would lie on his head, if Roderick should hereafter perpetrate that crime.—The coxcomb pedagogue declared that it was not owing to any instructions he had given, but to the natural abilities of the boy that he had made any proficiency; but said, he would take all possible care to prevent his farther improvement. In pursuance of this promise, he passed the thumb and fingers of Random's right hand through five holes in a board, which was firmly tied round his wrist. This was an effectual bar to his writing; but it was of short duration; for one of the school-boys upbraiding our hero on account of his poverty, the latter struck him so forcibly with his wooden weapon, that his skull was laid bare, and he was left weltering in his blood.—The severity of punishment which Roderick underwent for this delinquency,

linquency, exceeds the powers of language to describe, and can be equalled only by his own views of revenge.

From this period he was perpetually embroiled with them who insulted those misfortunes they were by no means disposed to relieve; 'till his spirit was wrought to such a degree of exasperation, that he cared not whom he encountered, or what might be the consequence of his quarrels.

Roderick was now deemed the author of every calamity that befel his brother villagers, and frequently punished for faults of which he had no knowledge.—Was an orchard robbed—a pound of gingerbread stolen—or a cat killed—Rory Random was the delinquent. Was a loaded pistol fired into a neighbour's house—he pulled the trigger—nay, such was the severity of the old pedant, that he was beaten because a dog bit him, the wheel of a cart ran over him, or he fell into a river and escaped with his life.—This treatment, however, served only as a spur to his genius, and as food for his revenge.—At the age of twelve he took precedence of all his school-fellows, both in mental qualifications, and bodily strength; circumstances which gave him so much consequence in the eyes of his companions, that he was deemed the champion of the school, and had near thirty boys at his command: he now, therefore, planned a scheme of being revenged on the old pedagogue; but previous to the carrying this scheme into execution, he engaged his partizans in frequent battles with the lads of a neighbouring school, in order to try their courage. In the interim he took every opportunity

of repairing to his grandfather's house, but he could seldom see him, surrounded as he was by a numerous train of relations.—The heir to the estate, an unlicked cub, just verging on manhood, always set his dogs on Roderick the moment he beheld him; on one of which occasions our hero, while pursued by the hounds, aimed a stone so dextrously at the mouth of the tutor to the heir, (who abetted him in this unmanly sport) that he beat out some of his teeth, which disqualified him from performing the office of parish clerk, which he had long held, as an appendage to the preceptorship.

At this juncture Roderick's uncle, who had served his country as a sea lieutenant, visited Scotland, and having learnt the situation of his nephew, relieved his immediate wants, and determined to see that justice was distributed to the injured youth. The task was arduous, and the agent ill qualified for its execution. A sailor, honest in the extreme, untaught in the ways of the world, and dressed *a la mode de Neptune*, could not combat the superior weight of real riches, ill-bestowed power, and essential tyranny. Mr. Bowling was a tar in the abstract, despising the formalities of politer life, yet blessed with a refinement of idea, that would have done honour to a regal circle. Equipped for the quarter deck, he took our hero to the family mansion-house, where the young 'squire, noting their approach, had uncoupled his hounds for the attack. Roderick would have fled, but the uncle, unused to fear, and disdaining to fly, levelled Cæsar with the ground, and made a prize of Jowler's head, by one stroke of his hanger. The
booby

booby heir, with a rear guard of dependants, now advanced to the field, execrating and denouncing vengeance against the enemies of his four-footed brethren.—The gallant seaman, with an air of conscious dignity, produced the implements of his vengeance, on which the servants of the choleric 'squire retreated to the house, leaving the master to answer the consequence of his own brutality. An altercation ensued, which ended in the visitants being admitted to the justice's apartment, a circumstance by no means agreeable to Roderick's cousins, who expressed in their looks the latent malevolence of their hearts.—The lieutenant introduced his business without ceremony, urging the old justice to consider the case, and relieve the necessities of his grandson.

The girls now opened at once on the stranger, and honoured him with a list of epithets, which polite ladies may use with impunity, but which would disgrace the mouths of the heroines of Billingsgate. The grandfather, reserved and austere, having insisted on silence, affected to forgive that bluntless in Mr. Bowling's behaviour, which in truth demanded his warmest applause. He then acquainted him that Roderick's education had been thrown away on him, and that he was ignorant and vicious in a high degree, notwithstanding which he would place him with some inferior artizan or mechanic, on the condition that his future behaviour should entitle him to so favourable a distinction. Bowling's pride and humanity were now called forth, and the latent indignation which had been rankling in his breast, gave birth to a speech which ended

in a hint, that the old gentleman would pay a visit to the infernal regions for his ill-treatment of the unfortunate Random. This said, the visitants departed.

Mr. Bowling remained some time in Scotland, in the hope that his presence might yet operate in favour of his nephew, when he was informed that the gout in the stomach having induced the old gentleman to remember that he was mortal, he had made his will, and summoned all his relations to a final visit. The lieutenant and his nephew repaired to the mansion-house, where they found the justice in the agonies of death, surrounded by his dependent relations, who were wishing for that moment, the arrival of which they seemed most to deprecate: not long, however, were they necessitated to exhibit countenances totally unaccommodated to the feelings of their hearts. The tyrant breathed his last, and a shriek of apparent desperation announced the joy of the surrounding multitude. Honest Bowling, having pronounced him as dead as a herring, and compared the scene before him to a dead shark among a number of carrion crows, procured the curse of the attendant priest, and so incensed the rest of the company, that he was obliged to draw his hanger, and declare his resolution not to depart the house 'till he knew who had authority to bid him begone. "Perhaps," cried he, "my poor Roderick here may be master of the vessel; and, if that should be the case, leave me to clear the ship, ye lubberly poltroons."—A day was now fixed on for opening the will and examining the papers and effects, and orders were issued that all the family should wear
the

the externals of grief.—When the wished for hour arrived, a group of such faces appeared at the manor-house, as would require the pencil of a Hogarth to delineate; fear, hope, grief, joy, and all that undescribable combination of hateful passions which take root in avarice, and end in disappointment, sat painted on every face; but the young ladies were all remarkably distinguished by this detestable *je ne sçai quoi*.

At length silence was demanded, while the lawyer pronounced the lubberly grandson before-mentioned sole heir to every part of the justice's estate. "What," cried a female relation, "not a single legacy?"—"Not a shilling." A fit was the consequence, and this amiable lady must now be left to time and *Sal Volatile* for a cure. The other relations bore their misfortunes with more patience, but exhibited evident signs of chagrin, and readily joined the lieutenant in abusing the parson, who, they insinuated, had tainted the old gentleman's mind with sentiments to their prejudice. The heir, happy in the distress which his grandfather's partiality had occasioned, told Bowling, that he would have shewn him the glorious sport of parson hunting, if he had not killed his beagles: but this was no time to sport with the passions of the honest tar; he d——d the dogs, the grandfather, and the young 'squire, insinuated that three of them were already in hell, and seemed, by his manner, to wish they had more company.

Bowling and Rory now hastened from the blubbering scene, nor did the former speak a word in a walk of four miles. At length, how-

ever, the benevolence of his heart getting the better of his indignation, he advised his kinsman to consider that a light heart and a thin pair of breeches would go through the world, and to console himself with the thought, that the old scoundrel was gone to the devil. However, it became necessary to think of the means of future subsistence for his nephew, and the happiness of a sea life striking forcibly on his honest mind, he consulted not the disposition of Roderick, but resolved to make him a sailor; from which plan he was soon afterwards diverted by the advice of a friend, who represented the absurdity of wasting so good an education between the decks of a man of war. Bowling was easily determined to finish the boy's classical education, and soon afterwards placed him at an university. But a plan having been concerted to revenge the cruelties of the old school-master, it was determined to carry it into execution before they left that part of the country.

Roderick having previously engaged the assistance of his school-fellows, his uncle hired horses to carry them off as soon as the plot should be executed. The usher having left the school-room, Random admitted his uncle, and bolted the door: Bowling seized the pedagogue, and, by the assistance of the scholars, tied him to a post, and stripping his back, lashed him severely with a cat-o'-nine-tails amidst the repeated shouts of boys, to whom this revenge was exceedingly grateful. This business performed, the usher, who had been previously admitted, and tied to his desk, was left to console the old pedant, while Roderick and his uncle, mounting their horses,
were

were escorted by the whole school to a neighbouring village, where Bowling regaled the boys, of whom Random now took an affectionate leave, previous to his continuing his journey. On the following day our adventurers reached the town, where Rory was to finish his education, and where he was boarded, at his uncle's expence, with an apothecary, whose character will appear in the following pages.

In a few days Bowling set out to attend his duty on board, leaving our hero in a situation not much to be envied; as his support depended on a man whose manner of life exposed him to dangers equally great and frequent. Random applied himself very closely to study, and with such success, that in about three years he acquired a tolerable knowledge of the learned languages, and made no inconsiderable progress in the mathematics and natural philosophy. Having the advantage of a pleasing figure, and an agreeable sprightliness of conversation, it may reasonably be supposed he soon obtained a degree of favour among the ladies, such of whom as he most esteemed were frequently gratified by his indulging a natural genius for poetry in holding up the characters of their rivals in a ludicrous point of view. Roderick had two female cousins in this neighbourhood, who, though far from being handsome, were in no want of suitors; for the *petit maitres*, sensible of the attractive power of gold, paid that deference to their wealth which they imagined was due to their personal qualifications. These ladies caused it to be intimated, that Random might have the honour of being ranked in the list of their acquaintance;

quaintance; but, as they had formerly treated him with disrespect, he rejected their overtures, and felt no small share of satisfaction at seeing their pride piqued at his indifference. They determined to punish him for his supercilious conduct, and with that view bribed an indigent student to write verses reflecting upon his parentage, and the contracted state of his finances. This stratagem having failed of success, they treacherously insinuated that he had attacked the character of a lady, whose lover was so incensed at the report, that he resolved to revenge himself upon the author of the supposed injury, by prevailing upon some of his associates to assist in the cruel design of way-laying him one evening, and giving him a very severe ducking. It being the depth of winter, perhaps, rendered our hero the less willing to undergo this discipline, the severity of which so greatly exasperated him, that he was resolved to turn the tables upon the conspirators against him; accordingly, he reached home by an unfrequented way, and watching the opportunity of their being under his window, discharged the contents of a certain chamber utensil upon their heads. This event gave occasion for the wits to be very severe upon the unfortunate sufferers, who not being able to withstand the shafts of ridicule, left the town, in hopes that before their return the circumstances of their disagreeable dilemma would be lost in oblivion. The rancour and malevolence of these womens hearts prompted them to undermine the integrity of Roderick's intimate friend, who was prevailed upon to discover some little gallantries, which were immediately made known with such
aggravating

aggravating circumstances, as were allowed sufficient to justify his being forbid to continue his visits among his most respectable friends.—Soon after this affair Roderick was accosted by his landlady with evident marks of disrespect; and upon enquiring into the cause of her strange behaviour, she said, “ it was ten thousand pities he was not bred to some handicraft employment, instead of wasting his time in search of fruitless learning, which would never produce him a groat; that she had a family to provide for, and that charity began at home; and concluded with informing him, that her husband had received a letter from his uncle Bowling, who had deserted his ship in consequence of having killed the captain in a duel, and depended wholly upon the interest of his landlord, at Deal, to procure a re-instatement.” Soon after this discourse, which made a very deep impression upon Roderick, the following letter, which had been inclosed in that to Mr. Potion, his landlord, was put into his hands :

“ Dear Rory,

“ Don’t be grieved at my misfortune—but mind your book, my lad. I have got no money to send you; but what of that?—Mr. Potion will take care of you, for the love he bears to me; and let you want for nothing, and it shall go hard, but I will see him one day repaid.—No more at present, so rests

“ Yours,

“ Thomas Bowling.”

The

The doctor being now present, began a very serious harangue on the great scarcity of money, towards the conclusion of which he desired Roderick to seek for a new lodging, having occasion to take an additional servant into his family, whom he meant to lodge in Roderick's apartment. Our adventurer's pride was touched at this treatment; he therefore satisfied the apothecary's demand, and immediately left the house, with only three shillings in his possession, and not a friend to whom he could apply for assistance. After having given vent to his passion, he hired a mean lodging for eighteen-pence per week, where his luggage was no sooner deposited than he repaired to an acquaintance, whom, from various circumstances, he had reason to suppose would realize those generous offers made when he stood in no need of assistance. The behaviour of this pretended friend, however, was such as to produce a warm altercation, which ended in a mutual agreement to put a period to all intercourse between them. Soon after this disappointment he met his friend 'squire Gawky, to whom he freely communicated his unfortunate situation, but, instead of assistance, he was treated with the most mortifying indifference; which passion, or rather motion of the mind, was changed to a more furious one, upon learning that Gawky was the agent, by means of which his cousins had learnt the history of his amours. Enraged at the perfidy of his old companion, he borrowed a sword and sent him a challenge, at the sight of which Gawky instantly set out for a different part of the country, leaving Roderick to enjoy his triumph; and so elevated

vated was he with success, that he sold some part of his wearing apparel, considerably under value, for the purpose of procuring a few days subsistence, and having an account of his affair with Gawky communicated through the channel of the public news.

When the violence of his passions had abated, Random began to reflect upon his desperate situation, and he so much indulged his melancholy ideas, that he seemed verging on a state of despair. However, he was one day informed that Mr. Launcelot Crab, a surgeon in the town, was inclined to speak with him at an adjacent drinking house: hither he immediately repaired, where he found the surgeon with two companions over a liquor, composed of brandy and small-beer, called *pop-in*. Crab was a short man, uncommonly bulky, with a flat, broad face, overspread with carbuncles, from which proceeded an enormous hooked nose; his eyes were grey and small, and so placed in the sockets, that while he looked in a direct line they appeared to be fixed on the ground. Crab entertained a strong enmity against Potion, for having once had the effrontery to restore the health of a patient whom he pronounced to be incurable; and after hearing Roderick's tale he gave vent to the most bitter invectives against his rival, whose selfish disposition he resolved to oppose against his own generosity, by taking Random into his house. This proposal being made, our adventurer said he hoped to be of some service, as, during his residence with Mr. Potion, he had acquired some knowledge of pharmacy, and studied surgery with a great deal of attention.

“ Studied

“ Studied surgery, ha ! ” (cried Crab) “ in books, I suppose you mean ? Your studies, young man, will be of little service to me. Why now I suppose you would dare to dispute concerning the most intricate points of my profession, would not you ? Can you bleed, blister, read and make up a prescription ? ” Being answered in the affirmative, he was that evening ranked among the number of the surgeon’s family. Roderick soon discovered Crab to be a man of a most savage disposition, and that the effects of his fury were more severely felt by his dependants ; as whenever they attempted to sooth the violence of his rage, he broke forth with exaggerated force upon the least symptom of condescension being evinced by the unhappy object of his displeasure. He therefore determined to pursue a different conduct ; and when his master had one day bestowed on him a long catalogue of disgraceful epithets, he boldly returned the abuse, and upon observing a cane directed towards his head, snatched up a large pestle, declaring that he would give the weapon its whole force, if he received a blow without cause. The doctor left the house, denouncing vengeance against his insulting servant, whose imagination suffered the most extreme torture from a report occurring to his memory, that his master had secretly occasioned the death of one of his apprentices. These fears, however, were dissipated, upon being treated the following day with unusual familiarity and good nature. Though Roderick’s situation was by no means agreeable, he could suggest no probable method of altering it for the better, and therefore determined to study the
humour

humour of Crab, and accommodate his own conduct to the caprices of his superior with all possible address. This plan succeeded so well, that he soon gained an entire ascendancy over him, and at length became a necessary substitute during the absence of the surgeon, who spent a considerable portion of his time among his bottle companions. Roderick was allowed no wages, and his perquisites were barely sufficient to provide him with the common necessities of life, so that being necessarily obliged to detach himself from company, he had sufficient time to improve himself in the profession he had entered upon; which he hoped would one day prove the means of a comfortable subsistence.

At the expiration of two years he began to entertain a desire of leaving Mr. Crab, in order to get some more eligible settlement; but as a sum of money was absolutely necessary for the execution of this design, he despaired of carrying his point, being perfectly convinced that his master had more regard for his own interest than to forward his departure.—About this time the servant-maid became pregnant, and acquainted Roderick with her condition, who painted in very strong colours the absurdity of declaring him to be the father, since Crab had been indulged in familiarities that might equally entitle him to that honourable distinction. This remonstrance had the desired effect; and Mr. Crab was only concerned that the consequence of this amour would give Mr. Potion an opportunity of reflecting upon his character. He took occasion to inform Roderick, that the expected war with Spain would furnish him with a happy opportunity

tunity of making his fortune; and even offered him letters of recommendation to a member of parliament, and money sufficient to defray his expences to London.

Accordingly Roderick set out for the metropolitan city of the British empire, but met with some occurrences in his journey thither that deserve to be taken notice of. When he arrived at Newcastle, he resolved not to travel any more by land, but to take his passage on board one of the colliers, of which there are always a great number in that port; but an incident happened, that changed his resolution. Going one day into a barber's shop to be shaved, he met with his old friend and school fellow Strap, who told him that he had worked there sometime as a journeyman, but that he proposed in the spring to set out for London:—he told Roderick that nothing could be more imprudent than the plan laid down by him to go to London by Sea, because it being then winter, there was sure to be stormy weather on the coast, and experience daily shewed that many accidents of the most dangerous nature happened; adding at the same time, that he was in great danger of being impressed on board one of the ships of war.

Roderick was so much pleased with Strap's proposal, that he embraced him with tears of joy, and then it was agreed upon between them that they should set out the next morning on foot, not doubting but they would overtake one of the stage waggons, which would for a trifling expence convey them in safety to London. The first day was spent without meeting with any thing worthy of notice, and at night they took
up

up their lodgings at a small hedge ale-house adjoining to the road, where they met with a Scotch pedlar, who, in consequence of a licence, travelled into that part of the country to vend his wares.

Having spent the evening in the most agreeable manner, they were shewn to their respective apartments about eight o'clock in the evening, which was one room with two beds, namely one for the Scotch pedlar, and the other for Roderick and Strap. The pedlar took great care to fasten the door, and Roderick with his companion were so much fatigued that they went to rest, and slept till midnight, when they were awaked by the dreadful imprecations of a highwayman, who had conceived a notion that a stage coachman had neglected to give him proper intelligence concerning his passengers.

The pedlar who seemed to have lulled himself in carnal security, snored so loud that the highwayman awakened him, and snatching up a pistol, swore he would blow his brains out; but the inn-keeper's daughter interposed and told him, that there were no other persons in the room but three poor Scotchmen, one of whom was a pedlar. In the mean time Strap, who was terribly frightened, endeavoured to awake the pedlar; but no sooner had he laid hands on him, than the travelling merchant cried out "thieves! thieves!" The highwayman hearing the exclamation of Sawney, attempted to break open the door of the room, and would certainly have done it had not he been told that the pedlar always dreamed of thieves. The pedlar, who was no stranger to the practices carried on in the ale-house,

house, pretended to be asleep till every thing was quiet, and then getting up, let himself out at one of the windows of the room, taking his bag, containing his whole stock, along with him.

Roderick and his companion Strap would have accompanied him, but they began to recollect that no step would be more imprudent, especially as the highwayman might meet with them again, and consequently, from motives of suspicion, take a cruel revenge.

In the morning when the inn-keeper's daughter found that Sawney the pedlar had made an elopement in so dexterous a manner, she informed Rifle the highwayman of that circumstance, who immediately got up and rode off, for a guilty conscience is ever haunted with fear. Roderick and Strap took leave of their hosts in the morning, but they had not proceeded above five miles when they were overtaken by the same highwayman who had put them to so much fear the preceding night. Strap, who was utterly unacquainted with common life, any further than manual labour, fell on his knees and begged that Mr. Rifle would not shoot him; upon which the knight of the road imagining that he might one day give evidence against him, fired a pistol; and the poor barber not in the least hurt, but almost dead with fear, fell down as if he had actually been shot. Roderick soon raised Strap upon his legs, and both walked together to an inn, or rather an ale-house near the road, where they met with two farmers engaged at cards with an exciseman and the curate of the parish; and in a short time the ignorant farmers were

were stripped of all the money which they had received for goods at the market.

The curate, who seems to have been a disgrace to his profession, pulled out a fiddle which he had concealed under his canonicals, and began to play a tune to the farmers ; but scarce had he begun when the rector of the parish came up to the door, and his journeyman called out, " God, there is our dog of a Doctor, and I must attend him." Accordingly leading his horse to the stable, he approached his superior with the most profound reverence, and asked whether he would chuse to dine there, but was answered in the negative. The doctor drank a glass in the kitchen, and then mounting his horse, set out for his own house to visit his housekeeper Nancy, who had lately lain in, in consequence of her connections with his reverence.

Roderick and Strap having eaten a good wholesome dinner, were going to take their leave, when a crowd approached the door of the inn, having in their custody the highwayman Mr. Rifle. The appearance of Rifle was so agreeable to Strap, that notwithstanding his being in irons, he offered to fight him for a guinea, and would certainly have put his threats in execution, had he not been dissuaded from it by Roderick, who looked on the robber as already sufficiently humbled, and consequently an object of compassion rather than resentment.

As the justice of the peace before whom Rifle was to be carried, could not be seen till next morning, and as Strap was known to be one who could give evidence against him, our two adventurers were obliged to remain all night at
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the inn, but in the mean time the robber made his escape. This disconcerted the whole plan laid for bringing him to justice, and accordingly our travellers set out next morning in order to overtake the waggon, which they had not the good fortune to do. All day they travelled without stopping, till being fatigued in the evening, they came to an inn, and having taken a little refreshment went to bed. The fatigues of the day made sleep agreeable to them, and they might have rested in peace till the morning, had it not been for a recruiting serjeant and a drummer, who both lay in the same room. The serjeant happened to dream that two recruits whom he had enlisted the day before had mutinied, and therefore starting up in his sleep about three o'clock in the morning, called out " zoons, run the halbert into the guts of the one, and I will blow the other's brains out."

Strap, who happened to be awake, heard this dreadful exclamation, and getting out of bed, met with a person in the dark whom he overturned in an instant. The person thus overturned was no other than the recruiting serjeant, and the noise made by him alarmed the whole house. The landlady made her appearance in her shift, and a large pair of buckskin breeches, which had time immemorial covered the posteriors of her husband, while the landlord himself had her petticoats about his shoulders. Some had blankets about them, some coverlids, but the drummer, who had sent his only shirt to be washed, appeared as in a state of innocence, only that he had a bolster wrapped round his middle.

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This uproar which occasioned no small degree of laughter, having subsided, every person retired to rest, and next morning our travellers proceeded on their journey. It was not however in their power to overtake the waggon that day, and therefore in the evening they went into a small hedge ale-house, kept by a country pedagogue, or schoolmaster, who entertained them with scraps of Latin, and seemed so disinterested in the whole of his behaviour, that they began to imagine he would not charge them any thing.

The morning at last approached, and breakfast being over, Roderick, as the superior, asked what was to pay? The landlord told him he never meddled with such trifling things, but if there was any thing to pay his daughter Biddy would inform them of it. Accordingly Biddy was called, who presented her bill, and it amounted to eight shillings and seven-pence. Roderick endeavoured to convince the pedagogue that his charge was more than double, but all the answer he could receive was only a few scraps of Latin, by which he put him in mind of the necessity all young people, especially those who have no money are under, to act with prudence and not make an ostentatious display of their knowledge. Strap's indignation was fired to the utmost, and there is reason to believe that he would have laid the school master and his daughter sprawling on the floor, had not Biddy, who was well acquainted with such tricks, gone out and brought in two country rustics, who under pretence of taking their morning draught, were to see that our adventurers paid their reckoning. At last, seeing no opportunity of disputing the demands

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of the pedagogue, the money was paid, and Roderick and his friend left the ale-house in order to try whether they could not overtake the waggon.

While they were advancing in order to overtake the waggon, Strap whose thoughts were bent on the promotion of his own interest, made some shrewd remarks on what had been said by the schoolmaster, and on the foolishness of those who part with their money without receiving a valuable gratuity. He took notice, that some people got their money as knaves and spent it as fools; which so exasperated Roderick Random, that he would have fallen out with his bosom friend, had not a profound silence taken place, and without taking notice of each other, they continued travelling till towards evening, when they descried the waggon and got into it, after having agreed with the driver upon the money they were to pay for their conveyance to London. This gave great pleasure to our travellers, who entered the conveyance, not doubting but all their labour was at an end till such time as they should get to the metropolis.

Scarce had they entered the waggon, when a poor beggarly fellow, who had been honoured with an ensign's commission, in consequence of marrying the kept Mrs. of a certain nobleman, swore he would put an end to Strap's life, for no other reason but that he happened to tread upon his toes. Among the other passengers was a kept mistress, who was then under the protection of a Jewish usurer, and although she had degraded her person, yet she was not destitute of common sense. She no sooner heard the poor
nominal

nominal military officer exclaim against the Scotch barber, than she called out that all the passengers were upon an equality, that neither captains nor any other persons had a right to claim the least superiority; and turning to old Shylock the Jew, who was along with her in the waggon, and giving him two or three hearty smacks, asked him whether he would not coincide with her in the argument.

At last they arrived at the inn, where they were to remain during the night, and then the passengers made their appearance, for hitherto they had been in a manner concealed from each other. The ensign and his lady proposed having a room for themselves, but as that favour could not be granted on account of the number of guests who had come to lodge at the house, the innkeeper informed him, that he might sup by himself and his lady, on condition that the rest of the passengers would grant their consent. This motion was violently opposed by Miss Jenny, the kept mistress, who declared that the captain should not sup on any part of their victuals till such time as it was removed from their table. This occasioned a most violent dispute between the captain and Miss Jenny, as the former, who had received some broad hints that he was no more than a pimp, and his wife a whore, swore that he would put that person to death who called in question the honour of his wife.

Like most disputes arising from motives of no importance, the captain's menaces were treated with the utmost contempt, and supper being over, the company retired to rest. However, they had not been long in bed, when poor Strap

having been much disordered in his bowels, was obliged to get up in order to look for the necessary ; but on his return mistaking the way, he entered the chamber where the bodies of Captain Weazel and his lady were deposited. He attempted to get into the bed while the captain was at another end of the room groping for an empty vessel. Upon his return he found the brushy head of the Scotch barber, and taking the chamber pot in his hand, emptied the contents of it upon Strap and his wife. Strap was so much astonished, that he looked upon the place as haunted by infernal spirits, especially when the captain came up to him and threatened him with destruction, for having attempted to violate the chastity of his wife.

The captain's lady, who had now awakened, got up in a violent hurry, and laying hold of her husband, pulled him about, and called him a vile poltroon, while Strap who was almost frightened to death called out, that he was as innocent of any criminal conversation with her, as the child unborn. But this was not all, for Jenny who watched proper opportunities to put her schemes in execution, screamed out, because the old Jew, under whose protection she then was, and who had expended considerable sums in supporting her, had attempted to violate her chastity. The poor devil of a son of Jacob declared, that she was no more than a common woman of the town, and that he had often lain with her as a common prostitute. That he had not made any attempt on her virtue, but only come to her room in consequence of her

her having promised to meet him, and grant him the utmost gratification of his wishes.

Strap had been so terribly frightened by the incensed captain, that Roderick was obliged to intercede with the waggoner to speak in his favour. Indeed, Strap offered to box the captain for a guinea, and actually deposited the money, but the military gentleman looked upon the proposal as dishonourable, and drew his sword against the poor barber. This insolence, in a mean pitiful wretch, so enraged Roderick, that snatching up a spit, he drove the captain from one corner of the room to the other, till his wife coming in, screamed out so violently, that the poor wretch procured a cessation of hostilities, and then all matters were amicably adjusted, in consequence of Strap's falling on his knees and asking pardon. The affair between the son of Jacob and Jenny was compromised upon condition of five pounds being paid to the latter, and then the company proceeded on their Journey.

Part of the forenoon was spent in the captain's giving his fellow travellers an account of his numerous exploits, such as pulling a waiter by the nose, knocking down a soldier, and sending a challenge to a cheesemonger, who was his rival in courtship. Nor was his lady one whit less copious in her encomiums on those charms which constitute great part of the female character. Miss Jenny sung several songs, in order to divert the company, and keep up the spirits of the Israelite; but he absolutely declared, that he would never be reconciled to her. Few occurrences worth mentioning happened till they had travelled five days, but on the sixth stop-

ping at an inn for dinner, some squires who had been hunting came into the kitchen half famished, and ordered the landlord to set before them the victuals that had been dressed for the people in the waggon. This, however, he refused to comply with, and in consequence thereof, a dreadful uproar ensued. The captain was terribly frightened, and refused to fight for the provisions, which Jenny observing, got up, and after calling him a cowardly poltroon, laid hold of his sword and entered the kitchen, swearing that if the cook did not deliver up the provisions immediately, she would run him through the body.

The noise made by her, brought the squires into the kitchen, and Jenny knowing one of them, declared that the captain might dine by himself. Here the passengers in the waggon were on the point of losing their dinner, when Joey the driver laying hold of a large pitchfork, entered the kitchen, and would certainly have laid the squires dead on the spot, had not the landlord interposed, and told them, that although he was obliged to let the passengers have their dinner, yet he would part with his own for the use of the squires, and thus every thing was amicably adjusted.

Having dined comfortably and again entered the waggon, nothing material happened till towards evening, when Roderick, who chose to walk along with the driver, learned the whole character of the captain; and a gentleman's servant coming up at the time, it was proposed, that he should personate a highwayman, and pretend that he wanted to rob the passengers. Accordingly when he approached the people,
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they were in the utmost terror, and Jenny laying hold of the captain, told him, that now was the time for him to exert his courage, and shew that he was not unworthy the name of a soldier. But the captain lent a deaf ear to all her intreaties, which so much incensed the girl of the town, that she called him a most pitiful cowardly poltroon, and jumping out of the waggon, declared that she would sooner lose her life than be robbed. The Jew exclaimed in the most bitter accents, that he was a poor miserable sinner, not worth a shilling; and the captain after having befouled his breeches, sheltered himself under his wife's petticoats, but was dragged out by the pretended highwayman.

The pretended highwayman having frightened the captain, and made him an object of ridicule, rode off; while the Jew remarked, that the captain must be a pious Christian, because he worked out his salvation with fear and trembling. This piece of sarcasm raised such a laugh at the expence of the poor crest-fallen captain, that he got up in a rage, and swore in the most blasphemous manner that he would tear his liver out, and hang up his skin to be stuffed with the first cargo of manna that should be imported from the Levant. On the other hand, the son of Jacob declared, that he would swear the peace against him, and bind him over to his good behaviour. When they arrived at the inn, where they were to lodge for the night, all the passengers went to bed; but Strap, whose disorder in his bowels still continued, got up in the middle of the night, and proceeded to the necessary, in order to procure some ease. Having made a pro-

per evacuation, he returned to the room where Roderick lay; but in his way thither, he was terribly frightened by an old man with a long beard, whom he imagined to be the devil come to take him away to the infernal shades.

He communicated his thoughts to Roderick, and had scarce done speaking, when a monstrous overgrown raven entered the room, with bells about his neck; and an old man followed, calling out, "where is Ralpho?" Both our travellers concluded, that the old man was a ghost, and that the raven was his familiar spirit, for they were so much terrified, that the bells on the neck of the raven seemed massy iron chains; and Strap declared, that the old man must have been one who had been murdered.

Poor Strap fell into convulsion fits, and although Roderick had in some measure surmounted the notions of superstition, that he had learned in his youth; yet during the remainder of the night, he could not get any rest. In the morning, Joey, the waggoner told Roderick, that the old man was father to the landlord; that he had been many years deprived of the use of his reason; and that he generally got up in the middle of the night, when every one was asleep. As he was not a proper person for rational creatures to converse with, and as it was necessary to think of some object or other to divert him, the raven was made choice of, and the two lived together as the most intimate companions. Thus the whole mystery was cleared up, and in the same manner most stories concerning ghosts may be refuted.

Nothing

Nothing of any consequence happened to them during the remainder of the journey, and being safely arrived in London, where all the travellers parted, Strap took the wallet on his back, and marched in procession before Roderick, in order to find out the lodgings of Mr. Cringer, a member of parliament, to whom they had letters of recommendation. The ludicrous appearance they made was such, that every person stopped to look at them. The porters cursed Strap for carrying the wallet; and a hackney coachman, who imagined that Roderick might be able to pay a fare, wheeled his vehicle into the kennel, and bespattered both the Scotchmen with dirt. This misfortune, or rather act of rudeness, was succeeded by another, very consistent with what is commonly practised on strangers. The dirty manner, in which the coachman had left our two travellers, obliged them to go into a public house, where an arch wag made himself highly merry at their expence; which was so much resented by Roderick, that he stripped to fight; and immediately a ring was formed. Roderick beat his antagonist, and would undoubtedly have killed him, had not the spectators interposed, and brought off the combatants, who had no intention to desist while the least particle of strength remained in either.

Having dried their cloaths, our travellers asked the landlord if he knew Mr. Cringer, but were surprised to find that he answered in the negative; for they imagined, that his character was as conspicuous in London as in the borough that he represented. As no time was to be lost till they had seen this man of importance, they sallied

forth in the same attitude as before, but had not proceeded far when they met a footman, of whom they enquired concerning the member's place of abode. The party-coloured gentleman told them that he knew Mr. Cringer extremely well, and that he lodged at the sign of the Thistle and Three Pedlars, which was at the end of three or four different turnings, which at last brought them to the side of the river; when Strap, who had considered the footman as a pattern of honesty, who could not deceive, told Roderick that he was sure they had missed their way. This induced them to go into a small snuff-shop, distinguished by the sign of the Highlander, when the tobacconist told them that they had been imposed on, for Mr. Cringer lived at the court end of the town.

It was now late in the evening, and our travellers, who had been so grossly deceived, wanted a place where they might lodge during the night. The tobacconist, who happened to be a Scotchman, treated them in the most civil manner, and gave them directions to a friend of his who kept a chandler's shop near St. Martin's Lane, and who let them a room up two pair of stairs at the rate of two shillings *per* week; but so destitute was it of furniture, that when the bed was let down there was not so much as room for a chair. There they lay comfortably enough during the first night; and so much had they been fatigued the preceding day, that they did not get up till near noon. They were then both extremely hungry, and the landlord, who was a single man, told them that he would take them to a cellar at St. Giles's, where they might have

a good dinner for a very small matter. Accordingly they all three marched off for the scene of action ; but just as they were descending the steps of the cellar, Strap overturned the cook with a bason of broth in her hands, which falling on the legs of one of the drummers in the foot-guards, made him roar out in the most hideous manner. The cook, who was not one of the most delicate females, having recovered from her fall, got up, and laying hold of a bason of salt, applied some of it to the drummer's leg ; but that, instead of answering the end, made him roar out in a more blasphemous manner than ever : He actually went so far as to squeeze in pieces one of the pewter pots, and when called upon to pay for it, declared that if they made any such demand, he would go and sue them for damages. Poor Strap, who sat like a condemned thief, knew not what to say ; but prudence induced him to treat the drummer with a glass of gin, and to give the cook a couple of shillings, upon which every thing was amicably settled.

In the afternoon our two adventurers set out in quest of Strap's kinsman, who kept a school, in which he pretended to teach the learned languages, although he was one of the most arrant pedants that ever sat in a desk. He was self-conceited, and no way acquainted with the principles of literature, but had acquired a great character, while Strap looked upon him as more than human. They found him drinking in a public alehouse ; and no sooner had he looked at his two countrymen, than he declared, that, unless they made some very material alteration in their dress, they would become objects of ridi-

cule to all the people in London. He directed Roderick to an eminent wig-maker's in the same neighbourhood, who was to cut off his hair; and Strap, who still accompanied him, declared that no person in the world should palm a rotten wig upon him; nay, he even went so far as to bid only one half of the money demanded, which so exasperated the master of the shop, that he ordered them both to go about their business. Matters, however, were compromised, by the interposition of Roderick, whose cool deliberate manner of acting was much superior to the heat of temper by which Strap was governed; and a wig, consistent with the fashion, was purchased at the rate of ten shillings. This being done, they returned to their lodging, where Strap cut off the carrotty locks of Roderick in the most masterly manner; and then he seemed to be a new man, who had undergone a thorough metamorphosis.

On the morning they set out to visit Mr. Cringer; but when they came to the door, Strap knocked with such violence that the whole street was alarmed, and a chamber-pot was discharged on the poor shaver out of a window of a house next door to where the member lived; but Roderick escaped the deluge, by being at some distance. The noise brought Mr. Cringer's footman to the door, who demanded of Roderick what he wanted, and, telling him to learn better manners, flung the door in his face. This so vexed Roderick, that he vented his anger on Strap, who, taking up a large stone, threw it with such violence against the door of the house from whence the contents of the chamber-pot had been discharged,

charged, that it burst into the passage, and then the shaver took to his heels.

This was at an early period in the morning, and our two adventurers, after turning down an adjoining street, were accosted by a seemingly well-bred man, who asked them whether they had not dropped half a crown? Roderick and Strap, surprized at such an instance of honesty, pulled out their money, and counted it before the stranger, who immediately invited them to drink a share of the money; and this endeared him to them still more than ever. He told them that he loved the Scotch, for they were the bravest people in the world; which pleased them so much, that Strap's eyes swam with tears. At last they got into an alehouse in a dark alley, where another person was sitting; and after they had drank some time, it was proposed that they should play a game or two at cards.

Roderick and Strap, not imagining any harm, accepted the offer, and in a short time they found themselves stripped of all they had, except a few shillings; upon which they returned to their lodgings, cursing London and all the people in it. Their Landlord asked them concerning the reception they had met with from Mr. Cringer, and when they informed him, he told them that they had not gone the right way to work, for all those who have any business with members of parliament must see the porter, before they can procure admittance. This was a most mortifying reflection to them, after they had lost their money, and were in danger of being reduced to want.

Next

Next morning, when Roderick went again to wait on the member, as soon as the door was opened he slipped a shilling into the hands of the porter, and told him that he had some business with his master; accordingly he was admitted, and left standing in a cold passage three quarters of an hour. During that time he saw many young fellows, from Scotland, going to and coming from the presence-chamber, and at last he was admitted himself. The self-sufficient member was just taking leave of one Gawkey, a young fellow who had been at the same school with Roderick, and whom he heard Mr. Cringer invite to dine with him. At last, turning to poor Roderick, who was almost dead with cold, he asked him, what was his name? and what he wanted with him? Roderick informed him, that he designed to go on board one of the ships of war as a surgeon; when the upstart member, whose father had been no more than a footman, answered, that he would think of him as soon as any new ships were put into commission, but at that time he could do nothing for him, there being such a swarm of young men waiting for places at the Navy Office.

In the mean time Strap got into employment; and Roderick, who continued dancing attendance for some days on the member, was at last told that he need not give himself the trouble to call any more, but leave his commands with Mr. Staytape, a taylor, who it seems acted as his agent.

Just as he came out at the door he was followed by a young Scotchman, genteelly dressed,
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who entered into conversation with him, and told him that he had been some years surgeon's mate, and, in consequence of his knowledge of naval affairs, would give him all the instruction he could. He told him, that his ship had been put out of commission, and that he had been recommended to Cringer, who was a mean low-lived fellow, and that no regard was to be paid to his promises. He informed Roderick that he must be examined at Surgeons Hall; and then they both went to an alehouse, where they breakfasted on bread and cheese. As the stranger was destitute of money, he borrowed five shillings from Roderick, telling him that he would pay him to-morrow, when he would receive a considerable sum, and then they parted; but when Strap heard that he had parted with the money, he was not pleased, because they had been so much deceived by the sharpers.

In consequence of the instructions that Roderick had received, he went next morning to the Navy Office, to meet his new friend; but he was not to be found there, although he had promised to meet him. Many young fellows were waiting, and among them one so good-natured that he shewed Roderick the form of the letter that he must deliver to the commissioners, in order to get a warrant to be examined at Surgeons Hall. They then went to dine at a cook's shop, where he was told that the young stranger, whose name was Jackson, and who had borrowed the five shillings from him, was an extravagant fellow, who had spent his wages, and supported himself by borrowing money from such as were weak enough to trust him. Roderick now found that he had
been

been again imposed on; and Thompson, the young man who had given him the intelligence, had it not in his power to lend him any thing.

This young fellow had so much appearance of honesty, and spoke in so sincere a manner, that Roderick conceived a strong affection for him, and, as he lodged as far as Wapping, desired him to take a share of his bed; which he did, and next morning they returned to the Navy Office.

Their business at the Office was soon dispatched, for the clerk gave Roderick a letter to carry to Surgeons Hall, for which he paid three shillings and sixpence, and then returned to his lodging, to consult with Strap. The honest barber told him not to be discouraged, as nothing in his power should be left undone to serve him. He told him, that he would receive his wages in a few days, for one week, which, although no more than five shillings, yet should be at his service.

In the mean time he went in quest of Jackson, from one place to another, and at last found him sitting at dinner in a cellar, with a footman. This was a joyful circumstance in favour of Roderick, who dined with him, after which they adjourned to a neighbouring alehouse; where Jackson told him that he was on the point of being married to a rich heiress. But Roderick would not be put off with any excuses, and therefore insisted that the money he had lent him should be repaid. Upon that Jackson, who had a hanger, went and pawned it for two guineas, and gave Roderick his five shillings, with five shillings and sixpence, making in the whole half

a guinea ; which was as much as he wanted, to pay for his examination at Surgeons Hall.

Strap was overjoyed to hear of Roderick's good success ; and on the day when the surgeons met at the Hall, he went there in order to undergo the examination. Being called in by the beadle, he was asked many questions, some of which were of a very ridiculous nature ; but at last a warrant was made out for his being properly qualified for a surgeon's mate : and then he returned from the Hall with only thirteen pence in his pocket.

As he was going out of the Hall, Jackson, who was waiting there, came up to him, and asked him to accompany him to the other end of the town. Jackson had disguised himself in such a manner that the Board considered him as an impostor, and ordered the beadle to take him to Bridewell ; but, for a present of half a crown, he was suffered to go about his business. It being late in the evening, Roderick and Jackson, with several other young fellows, set out for the purlieus of Covent-Garden, where they got into a tavern, and drank till they were quite heated with liquor. Thus intoxicated with drinking, immediately they set out for a bawdy-house, and a woman of the town picked Mr. Jackson's pocket of all his money, which by that time was not much.

This enraged him so much, that seizing two of the whores, he swore he would sacrifice them, unless they delivered him his money. This, however, was all in vain, for the bawd coming into the room, told him that she would charge a constable with him, for having scandalized her reputation.

reputation. Her threatening was immediately put in execution, and Jackson at the same time charging the constable with the bawd, the whole crew were carried to the watch-house. Next morning they were all taken before a noted justice, famous for catching thieves, and our young adventurers underwent a severe examination. He called them a parcel of thieves, and although none of them had ever been charged with crimes before, yet he had the insolence to declare that they had been many times at his office. At last he addressed himself to them, and told them, that as they were young persons, and there might be yet some hopes of their reformation, he would for this time discharge them, but desired that they might never be seen there for the future.

Next morning, all those who had qualifications being obliged to deliver them, sealed up, at the Navy Office; the officer put them all upon one file, and Roderick having ventured to ask him a few questions, whether there were any vacancies, the imperious fellow, who expected a fee, drove him and his companions out of the Office. It was indispensably necessary that every one of these young fellows should make a present to the secretary, who shared it with the commissioners; but as poor Roderick had not as much as would purchase a dinner, he returned to his lodgings with a heavy heart, cursing his relations, who had left him exposed to all the hardships of an injurious world.

When he arrived at his lodgings, his landlord received him with great marks of civility, for he was afraid some accident had befallen him.

Strap,

Strap, who had come to enquire for Roderick, and found that he had not been at home during the night, was almost distracted, and went to Surgeons Hall in quest of him; but not being able to procure any intelligence, he resolved to enquire of every one whom he met in the streets. Accordingly he put his resolution in practice, notwithstanding the many curses he received from those whom he stopped, till a blacksmith's 'prentice asked him, if the person he enquired after was not a Scotchman, with red hair and a long brown coat? Strap answered in the affirmative, when the 'prentice told him that he was just gone up Holborn in a cart to Tyburn, and if he made haste to the place of execution he would see him hanged.

This severe sarcasm so enraged honest Strap, that he said he would fight him, for half a farthing; which the other agreed to, telling him, in answer, that, as Scotchmen seldom carried much money along with them, he would fight him for love. A most desperate battle ensued, in which Strap was beaten; and when he went to see for his cloaths, he found only his coat and waistcoat remaining, so that he was obliged to return home to his landlord's in the most ludicrous condition that could be imagined.

On his return he found Roderick, at which he was so much over-joyed that he forgot his bruises, and shared his money with him, which amounted to no more than eighteen pence.

As soon as poor Strap was gone, Roderick, finding no appearance of ever succeeding at the Navy Office, resolved to enlist in the foot-guards; for he could not bear the thoughts of being under perpetual

perpetual obligations to a poor barber's boy, who wrought hard for a few shillings per week. Next morning when honest Strap came to see him, he told him that his friend and kinsman, the school-master, had proposed his going to serve an apothecary as a journeyman, who lived in the same neighbourhood with himself. This was joyful news to Roderick, and the school-master having given him credit for a suit of fashionable cloaths, he was next morning introduced to his new master.

Mr. Lavement, the apothecary, whom Roderick went to serve, was a French protestant ; and his family consisted of himself, his wife a gay woman, and his daughter, a vain young girl.

As Roderick could not get his new cloaths till the Saturday following, and as he made a ludicrous appearance in those he had on, so Miss looked upon him in a very contemptible light ; but on Sunday when he was dressed, she was so much surprised, that she began to look upon him as one not unworthy of her notice.

Next day she came frequently into the shop, but as Roderick's pride would not suffer him to forgive her, for some slighting expressions she had made use of ; she resolved to be revenged on him, and therefore one day ordered him to brush his master's coat. This he absolutely refused to do, and a smart dialogue ensued, which brought the mother into the shop ; and she, in order to mortify her daughter, decided in favour of Roderick. This was not owing to any respect she had for Roderick, but only because of one Captain O'Donnell, who lodged in the house, and who made love to the daughter, while he in-
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trigued with the mother. Indeed, miss was so sensible of her mother's conduct, that she burst into tears, and plainly told her there were some persons in the world who would never do justice to other persons ; but those other persons knew their reasons, and despised them with the most sovereign contempt. A shocking expression, but the mother had only herself to thank for it.

Mrs. Lavement, was one of those women whose passions got the better of all regard to decency ; and therefore one afternoon, when her husband was abroad, she went out with Captain O'Donnel, under pretence of going to the play. About eleven in the evening, Mr. Lavement came home, and asked if his wife was gone to bed ; but Roderick telling him, that she had gone out in the afternoon, and was not yet returned ; he flew into a most violent passion, and going to make up a prescription, he no sooner learned that she was along with the captain, than he broke a glass mortar into a thousand pieces.

Just at that instant Mrs. Lavement came to the door in a hackney coach, attended by the captain, and flouncing into the shop, a smart dialogue ensued between her and her husband. The captain having discharged the coach, followed madam, and demanded with a stern voice of the apothecary, if he doubted his honour ; and laying his hand on his sword, the poor son of Esculapius was so much frightened, that he said not one word more. Next day, Roderick saw the captain through the glass door of a parlour talking to miss, seemingly in defence of his conduct,

duſt, and, after much altercation, ſhe forgave him.

One evening as Roderick, who had an amorous conſtitution, was going into the apartment of one of the maids, with whom he had made an aſſignment, found her faſt aſleep in the arms of the captain's ſervant, and conſequently retreated to his own room; but in his way thither, happened to go into the room where miſs lay, and ſhe taking him for the captain, ſuffered him to come into bed. She told him, that ſhe was ſome months gone with child, and that nothing but matrimony could ſave her character, to which Roderick answered only in whiſpers; and hearing ſomething fall in his own room, he got up, for fear of a diſcovery. This was no other than the captain, who had gone by miſtake into Roderick's apartment, and tumbled over a chair; after which finding that a diſcovery might be made, he retired to his own chamber. Next day, miſs, who from ſome words that dropped from the captain, began to learn who had ſupplied his place, came into the ſhop, and fixing her eyes on Roderick, ſighed moſt piteouſly; but he took no notice of her, being determined to mortify her pride, in revenge for the uſage ſhe had treated him with.

From this time forward ſhe behaved with more reſpect as to outward appearances; but for all that, ſhe was meditating a cruel revenge, for women ſeldom forgive what they conſider as an indignity offered to them.

One evening as Roderick was on his return from viſiting a patient at Chelſea, he received a moſt violent ſtab in the dark, and the point of
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the sword that seemed to have been directed to his heart, broke off, and lodged in his breast: His groans brought the people of a neighbouring ale-house to his assistance, and next morning he was carried home in a chair. As he had not been robbed, he concluded that the assassin was one who knew him well, and upon his going into the apothecary's house, he met the captain, who started back, and shewed the utmost signs of confusion. This induced him to suspect, that the whole was a scheme laid by his master's daughter, in order to prevent him from publishing her shame; and one morning going into the captain's apartment, when he was gone out in an undress, he compared the point that had been lodged in his breast, with the captain's sword, and found that they both tallied with each other, so that no room being left to doubt of his guilt, he resolved to take a proper revenge.

Accordingly having made Strap acquainted with his design, the honest shaver procured two others of the same profession with himself; and a letter was directed to the captain in the name of an apothecary's wife at Chelsea, whom he had seduced. He was desired to meet her at her own house, because her husband was gone as far as Bagshot; and he overjoyed with the thoughts of meeting with so favourable an opportunity, set out for the place late in the evening; but just as he was passing by where he had assaulted Roderick, the assailants rushed upon him, and having stripped him stark naked, whipped him till his skin was all over blisters. They then flung
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his cloaths into a ditch, and suffered him to make his way home in the best manner he could.

In his way thither he was picked up by the watch, who carried him to the round house, where he remained till he had sent for cloaths; and in the morning he was sent home. Roderick, who dressed his wounds, could scarce refrain from smiling; and as his cloaths were found next day, and several love letters discovered, they were published to the world; and the captain finding his assumed character blasted, left his lodgings in a clandestine manner. In his trunk, which was supposed to contain many valuables, was only a parcel of stones, for this Hibernian was one of those adventurers called fortune hunters.

There is scarce any thing that occasions more mischief in families, than that of a man in ordinary circumstances keeping an only daughter at home; while he has a smart genteel shopman, and a young military officer for a lodger. It was so in Mr. Lavement's, and has been so in thousands. Roderick had scarce been delivered from the odious Captain O'Donnel, when the character of Miss Lavement, or rather the expectation of her fortune, brought young Gawky to lodge in the house; but not till the generous Strap had agreed to go abroad in character of *valet de chambre* with a gentleman, who was going to make the tour of Europe. Roderick made no objection to the poor fellow's going away, although he was under many obligations to him, for he wanted to get rid of him, because he was, according to his hopes, on the point of being married to a lady of fortune. But how
great

great was his surprize, when going one morning to visit her, previous to the intended espousals, he found a man in bed with her.

Although Gawkey had been brought up at the same school with Roderick, and had now obtained a lieutenant's commission in the army, yet he pretended not to know him, for he was a vain empty coxcomb, and had nothing to recommend him but a suit of scarlet. One evening, pretty late, when Roderick was returning from visiting a patient, he heard a noise in the street, and going up to see what was the matter, found two gentlemen in custody of the watch. One of these sparks was no other than Gawkey, and Roderick, from motives of prejudice in favour of his country, knock'd down the watchman that had him in custody, and the military man, like a true coward, took to his heels.

Roderick had great difficulty in making his escape, nor did he effect it till he had received a violent contusion on the eye. When he came home, he took no notice of the affair; but next morning, hearing Gawkey tell a thousand lies concerning the courage he had displayed the preceding evening, he explained the whole affair to his master; but the mistress, instead of believing him, threatened to turn him away.

Miss Lavement's condition, in consequence of her connection with Captain O'Donnell, was now such that she could not much longer conceal her shame. This induced her to make the most forward approaches to Gawkey; and one evening, under pretence of going to the play, they set out for the Fleet, where they were married, and spent the first night in a bagnio. Next

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morning

morning the young couple came home to ask their parents blessing, which was freely granted, because Gawkey had never mentioned one word concerning the young lady's fortune.

But little did poor Roderick think what was contriving for him. Gawkey, who, like all cowards, was of a cruel revengeful disposition, could not forgive the severe account he had given of his behaviour to the watch; and there is no doubt that his spouse concurred with him in all his schemes, Roderick being equally obnoxious to herself.

For some time Mr. Lavement had lost several quantities of medicines; and, as there was no other person but Roderick to take care of the shop, he charged him with having robbed him, and demanded the key of his trunk to make a proper search.

Conscious of his innocence, he gave his master the key, who went up stairs, attended by every one in the family; but what was poor Roderick's surprize, when he saw the things taken out of his trunk. Gawkey and his spouse proposed sending Roderick to Newgate, in order to be tried for felony, but his master contented himself with dismissing him from his service. Indeed, the whole was a scheme laid to bring him to an ignominious end, of which he was so sensible, that he accused Gawkey of the crime, and told him that his spouse would soon convince him that he was a cuckold by anticipation. Gawkey was going to draw his sword, but Roderick snatching up a bottle, would certainly have knocked out his brains, had not he and his father in law taken to their heels, and tumbled over

over each other on the stairs. Mrs. Gawkey pretended to be in a fit, but Roderick told her not to be under any fear, because he would not offer her the least injury, but leave her to the agonizing pains of her own conscience. When the apothecary had got upon his feet, he called out, Where is my child? To which Roderick answered, she was safe, and in a short time would make him a grandfather. This stung her so much, that she begged of her father to let the wretch go; and that day Roderick left the house of Mr. Lavement. He went to mention the affair to the school-master, who had recommended him to the place, but he would not hear one word that he had to say in his defence; and therefore, having pawned some of his cloaths, he took lodgings in a garret near St. Giles's, where he proposed staying till he had cured himself of the venereal disease, which he had contracted in the course of his amours.

One day, while he was sitting in the most solitary manner in his apartment, he heard a female groan issue from the next room, and being curious to know who was the person, he went in; but how great was his surprize, when he found, seemingly in the agonies of death, the same woman whom he had formerly been on the point of marrying. She recollected him, and begged that he would not concern himself with such a wretch, but leave her to finish her miserable life in the manner that great part of it had been spent.

Roderick, however, had too much humanity to suffer a fellow-creature to perish, while he had any thing in his pocket, and therefore went

and ordered something to be got ready for her, which in some measure revived her spirits; and, as she was then labouring under the venereal disease, he told her that he would cure her, and do what he could for her support, till such time as she should be able to go to service. This necessity made her very willing to comply with; and one day, while they were sitting in company together, he told her that it surprized him much that a woman of her numerous accomplishments and fine education should ever plunge herself into such vices as are a disgrace to her sex. In answer to this, she informed him that the very qualifications he had mentioned were the cause of her ruin, and related to him the following account of her misfortunes.

Her father, a merchant in the city, had retired from business, and left her to the care of an aunt, a rigid presbyterian, who made her attend so often on the sermons of the saints, that religion appeared to her as the most gloomy thing in the world. As she grew up, she got acquainted with a young lady, who took notice of the prejudices she laboured under, and recommended to her perusal some deistical writers, which soon made her a real Free-thinker. When she was a little turned of fifteen, she was sent into the country to her father; but she had imbibed such notions from the deistical writers, that solitude was no way agreeable to her inclination. Books of poetry and romance were the entertainments of her leisure hours, by which her mind was led astray from prudence; and one day, as she strayed carelessly into the fields, a parcel of fox-hunters came up, and saw her with a book in her hand.

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One, more rude than the others, jumping off his horse, offered her some indecencies, but another coming to her assistance, conducted her in safety home to her father, who loaded him with a thousand blessings. The stranger was young, had an engaging appearance, and he was permitted to visit Miss on the footing of a lover. He professed that his intentions were honourable, and he soon inspired her heart with the most tender sentiments; but one day, having found her by herself, he triumphed over her virtue, and soon after left her to bewail the loss of that honour that is the glory of women.

Having heard that her seducer was married, and not being able to conceal her shame any longer, she left her father's house, and travelled to London, where she soon learned that a most indulgent parent had paid the debt of nature, in consequence of her disobedience. Destitute of friends in London, she was reduced to the utmost distress, and necessity drove her under the protection of one keeper after another. From one degree of vice she sunk down to another, till at last she became a common prostitute in the streets, exposed to cold, hunger, and the cruelty of those who are destitute of bowels of compassion: At last, destitute of every necessary of life, she resolved to have laid violent hands on herself, but was prevented by the kind interposition of Roderick; and now she was cured, she resolved to dress herself in the most plain manner, go into the country, and then come up to town in quest of a service.—Let her example teach young women the fatal consequence that attends the loss of honour! Let them consider what an affliction it

is to their parents, and what misery to themselves ! Let the person who would seduce them be considered in the character of an infernal fiend, who aims at nothing less than their destruction !

Roderick, who saw no appearance of any sort of business, began to turn his thoughts towards the army or the navy ; but he hesitated so long that all his friends forsook him, so that he was obliged to go and solicit a dinner from any one who was good-natured enough to compassionate his unhappy condition. Accordingly one day, going to see an old acquaintance who lived in Wapping, he was assaulted by a press-gang, who gave him several bloody wounds, and then took him on board a tender. There the unfortunate Roderick was confined in the hold, among a parcel of miserable wretches, destitute of the necessaries of life ; and although bleeding with his wounds, yet the commander of the tender paid so little regard to his complaints, that, looking at him in the most contemptible manner, he spit a large quid of tobacco into his face, telling him that he was a mean pitiful dog, and might die when he pleased, for he would grant him no remedy ; so that he was obliged to have recourse to patience.

Next day he was taken down to the Nore, and put on board the Thunder man of war, the same ship in which his uncle served ; and there he met with an honest tar, Jack Ratlin, who treated him in the most humane and compassionate manner. He had not, however, been long on board, when he was met by Crampley, the midshipman, who had used him so inhumanly on board the tender, and he seeing him released
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from his irons, asked him who had presumed to grant him that favour? Roderick, who was utterly unacquainted with sea affairs, or that obedience which the sailors are under, answered, that it was no business of his; upon which after receiving several blows, he was put into irons. In the mean time one of the mates was sent to dress him, through the interposition of his honest friend Jack Ratlin; but how great was his surprise, when he found the mate to be no other than his honest friend Thomson, whom he had met at the Navy Office, and who had discovered so much honesty in the whole of his conduct.

Thomson with his usual good nature went away in an abrupt manner, but in a few minutes returned with the master at arms, who immediately ordered Roderick to be set at liberty, and Crampley was by order of the first lieutenant put in his place. At that time the third mate having been ordered to another ship, the surgeon requested that Roderick should be exempted from all duty, in order to assist him, there being many sick men on board. This request was readily complied with, and Roderick was conducted down to the cockpit, the place appointed for the reception of the surgeons.

There he was presented to the steward, who assigned him his mess along with his friend Thomson, who brought him out such provisions as he had; and then informed him in what manner he had got on board. It seems he had done every thing towards procuring a warrant, according to his qualifications; but not having money enough for that purpose, he went one day to the Navy Office, where he saw a warrant made out

in his own name, and took it up; but scarce had he got on board, when another person came to claim it. The commanding officer, however, refused to grant him admission, and Thomson was confirmed in his place. He told him farther, that the surgeon was a good natured man; and that the first mate, who was then on shore, was a queer fellow, a Welchman, no way addicted to ill nature, but at the same time he was extremely choleric, and ready to fall out with every one who spoke to him, without paying him the utmost respect.

The name of this Welch surgeon, was Morgan; and scarce had they done speaking, when he made his appearance, swearing that he would not visit seamen, who wanted his assistance, till he had crammed his belly with victuals. But when he found that the pork which he had left in his cupboard, and which Thompson and Roderick had regaled themselves on, was not to be found, he flew into a most violent passion, declaring that he had not been used as a gentleman. Thomson however, brought him into good humour, and then they sat down together to supper, on onions, and some of the best Cheshire cheese.

Morgan was so much in earnest to finish his supper, that when one of the tars came to inform him, that the patient was dying, he quietly suffered him to pass into eternity, without administering him the least assistance. Next day Thomson took him along with him, to shew him the different parts of the ship; and among others, the place where the sick persons were. There he beheld above fifty poor miserable wretches,
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not only afflicted with diseases, but at the same time devoured with vermin, and such objects of compassion, that it was more wonderful they should live than die.

As it was necessary that Roderick should be accommodated with a bed, and as he had no money, the purser gave him credit; and his honest friend Jack Ratlin, slung him a hammock in the most neat and ingenious manner. Roderick and Thomson then went to visit the sick, and as Roderick was eager to learn the nature of his new employment, he got up among the hammocks, but soon found that many lice had taken possession both of his hair and cloaths.

When Roderick went to take possession of his hammock, he was so awkward in getting into it, that he tumbled over on the other side; and had it not been that he laid hold of Thomson's hammock, and so got up again, he would have fractured his scull. This terrified him so much that he could not sleep till the morning, when he was alarmed by the voice of the boatswain, calling up the watch, but being informed of the nature of it, he went to sleep till eight o'clock in the morning.

Soon after this affair, Roderick was presented by the head surgeon with a warrant, constituting him third mate, upon which he was entered into the muster roll, and resolved to support his dignity as an officer. It was not long however, before he found that he had to do with a most powerful antagonist; for Crampley, the midshipman, having been set at liberty, took every method in his power to affront him. This occasioned a battle between them, in which Roderick knocked

Cramply down, and he fell into the gangway as if he had been dead ; but Morgan having opened a vein, he bled freely and recovered.

The whole ship's crew applauded Roderick for having thus chastised Crampley, and soon after Captain Oakham, the commander, came on board, and brought along with him an Irish surgeon, he being a native of that country himself. As the ship was under sailing orders, Morgan, as the first mate, brought the captain a list of the sick men ; but this ferocious commander, so far from shewing the least signs of humanity, told the Welchman that he would have no sick men on board his ship. This enraged Morgan so much, that he went away in a violent passion, telling the captain, that he did not make the men sick, but that they were so by the order of God.

All the sick men were immediately ordered on deck, though some of them were at the point of death ; and so inhumane was Mr. Mackshane, the surgeon, that he declared they only shammed Abraham, that is, they were able to do their duty, but not willing ; upon which, several of them were tied up to the yards-arms, and whipped to death.

One of the seamen having been declared able to do his duty, Morgan told the captain that he was not sick but mad ; but the man having at that time some use of his reason, declared, that he was in his right senses, and that he had only been confined in consequence of an affront that he had given to Morgan. This pleased the captain and the surgeon so much, that he ordered the man to be set at liberty ; which was no sooner done,

done, than he flew upon the captain, and mauled him in the most unmerciful manner, leaving him almost dead on the quarter deck.

This was considered as such an indignity, that the poor fellow who was really mad, was ordered to be tied up; but before that could be done, he flung himself into the sea, and was drowned. Many poor wretches were used in the same inhuman manner, by which the sick list that amounted to fifty, was reduced to ten. Such are some of the practices carried on at sea, where tyrants are permitted to domineer over their fellow subjects, who are entitled to the protection of the law.

Having weighed anchor, they set sail for the Downs, and from thence to Spithead, where they joined the fleet, that had been fitted out for the expedition against Carthageria. Roderick, who had never before been at sea, and who was loath to leave England, yet found himself under the necessity of complying, and as he was not worse than many others on board, so he resolved to submit to his fate with a philosophic resignation.

A prosperous gale brought them out of the channel, after which they were some days becalmed; but at last a storm arose little better than a hurricane. The havoc made in the fleet by the storm, was the greatest that could have been imagined; many of the men were washed overboard, and some of the masts were split in pieces. Jack Ratlin, the honest tar, who had been so kind to Roderick, had his leg broken; but by the assistance of Morgan, Thomson, and Roderick, it was put in proper order.

A dispute arose between the doctor and the mates, concerning the nature of the fracture; and the former proposed cutting off the leg; but the mates being of opinion that there was no necessity for such an operation, took the whole upon themselves, by which the doctor became their most inveterate enemy. One evening as the mates were setting eating their supper, the doctor watched at the door of their apartment, thinking to lay hold of some expressions made use of by them, that might turn out to their disadvantage; and Roderick not knowing who it was, flung a bone he had been picking at the supposed listner, by which he received a violent contusion on the head. This however, was attended with fatal consequences, for next day while Roderick was visiting the sick, he was taken by the master of arms, and put in irons, under pretence that he was a spy. This was one of the most ridiculous charges that could have been made, but it was all owing to the malice of the surgeon, who could not forgive him, because he had given his opinion contrary to his in the case of Jack Ratlin.

Poor Morgan was next day sent to keep company with Roderick, but four of the enemies ships coming up, and the doctor finding that he would stand in need of his assistance to dress the wounded, procured an order for setting him at liberty, while Roderick was left chained down, exposed to all the horrors of a naval engagement.

The terrors of his mind were not insupportable, till the head of the officer of marines that had been shot off struck upon his face, and covered

vered it all over with brains. This made him roar out in the most hideous manner, upon which a drummer came up to him, and asked if he was wounded ; but before he had time to give an answer, the drummer was shot through the belly, and with his guts hanging out fell upon Roderick. This made him quite distracted, and he became for some hours deprived of his reason ; but the battle having subsided, Morgan and Thomson came to visit him, and administered to him all the consolation in their power. Morgan and Thompson imprecated a thousand curses on those who were the cause of his misery ; but their discourse was overheard by the centinel, who as soon as he was releived went and informed the captain.

In consequence of this information, Morgan was once more put in irons along with Roderick, and the amiable Thomson, upon whom all the drudgery of attending the sick and wounded fell, resolved to make away with himself ; and next morning it was given out that he had thrown himself overboard, which was undoubtedly the case, for he was not to be found in the ship.

There being now no person left on board at liberty to dress the wounded, it was proposed that Morgan should be released from confinement ; but the honest Welchman refused to have his irons taken off, till he should be honourably acquitted, because he knew that he was innocent. This demand was in its own nature every way reasonable, and, as the captain could not consistent with the obligations he was under to his country refuse to comply with his request, a mock trial ensued, in which Morgan was
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brow beaten, and left in the same state as before, without being able to produce any proof of his guilt; and Roderick, who still continued in irons, was treated in the same illegal manner.

The evidence produced against them on this mock trial, consisted of the boy, who attended their mess, and two other men who served before the mast; but they having been all suborned to swear falsely, they began to accuse each other, and the doctor not knowing but he might be called to an account for his conduct, ordered them both to be set at liberty. Soon after this, the ship came to anchor, in the harbour of Port-Royal, in the island at Jamaica, and having there joined the rest of the fleet that had been missing for sometime, the whole set sail together for the harbour of Carthagea, a Spanish fort in the West Indies. When they arrived there, it was determined in a council of war, that the fort should be attacked at the same time, both by sea and land; and in consequence of that resolution, a most bloody battle ensued, which was not conducted on the part of the English with great judgment, though it was attended with considerable loss. Poor Jack Ratlin had a hand shot off; and Crampley, whose malice against Roderick had not subsided, came to him in the heat of action, and ordered him to attend the captain on the quarter deck, who had received a slight wound. Roderick, who was not in the least obliged to comply with this order, imagined, that had he refused his, cowardice would have been a fine subject for Crampley, went boldly up over a heap of mangled bodies; but the captain fell into a violent passion, and ordered the doctor
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on the quarter deck immediately. Roderick had no sooner delivered these orders to the doctor, than he refused to comply; upon which Morgan went up and dressed the captain, who swore, that as soon as the engagement was over, he would confine Mackthane in irons.

In the mean time a breach was made in the walls, through which a party of marines passed, but they were soon after repulsed with considerable loss; a misunderstanding having taken place between the general and the admiral. At the same time the seamen on board the fleet were rendered so feeble by sickness, that it was found necessary to abandon the undertaking, which had cost the nation an incredible sum of money; but in all such cases the ministry never lose sight of their own interest.

The epidemical distemper that raged on board the fleet, communicated itself to Roderick, and so inhuman was his old enemy Crampley, that he ordered him to be confined in the sick room, where he would have been suffocated, had not a serjeant of the marines given him his hammock, which hung opposite to one of the port holes. There he continued till the fever threw him into a delirium, upon which Morgan applied a blister to his back, which brought him a little to his senses; but being given over as a dying man, the chaplain came to administer to him. He desired him to confess his sins, but Roderick told him, that looked more like popery than the protestant religion; upon which the reverend gentleman hopped away to his own apartment. In the mean time Roderick, who had a most excellent constitution recovered, and Captain Oakam
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having obtained the command of another ship, left the Thunder, and took along with him his beloved Doctor Mackshane. He was succeeded by one of so effeminate a constitution, that he seemed more like one of those who are brought up in a Turkish seraglio, than the captain of an English man of war, where none but brave men are supposed to serve.

He kept along with him a fellow who lay in a bed contiguous to his own, and with whom it was supposed he committed unnatural practices; and indeed, upon the whole, the captain seemed to be a disgrace to his office. The Thunder being ordered home to England, Roderick had some hopes of once more visiting his native country; but when he recollected in what manner he had been used there, and knowing that he had no friends to give him the least assistance, he consented to go as mate on board the Lizard sloop of war, then stationed at Jamaica. The Lizard was sent on a cruize towards Rhode Island, where she took a prize, which was sold at Jamaica; but, to the inexpressible mortification of Roderick, he found that his old enemy, Crampley, had obtained the commission of a lieutenant on board the Lizard. The surgeon advised him to dissemble his resentment till a proper opportunity, which he promised to do; and in the mean time, having obtained leave to go up into the country, he met with his old friend Thompson, whom he imagined to have been dead. That young man had actually thrown himself into the sea, but being an excellent swimmer, he got on board a merchant ship, and landing in Jamaica, was made choice of to superintend a plantation. He
treated

treated Roderick with the greatest kindness ; but soon after the ship was ordered for England.

Thompson having, in the most generous manner, furnished Roderick with every thing necessary for his voyage, he began to rejoice that he had now an opportunity of seeing England, not doubting but something would occur that might change the nature of his circumstances, and furnish him with something that would enable him to live in an independent manner. They had not, however, sailed above a week, when an event took place that rendered poor Roderick truly wretched. The captain was an old man, whose mind had been soured by misfortunes and disappointments ; and although Mr. Tomlins, the surgeon, offered to assist him, while afflicted with the gout and gravel, yet he refused to have any thing to do with him, but took to drinking Holland's gin, his sovereign remedy for all disorders, and by an excessive use of that pernicious liquor, soon put an end to his life ; upon which Crampley, though only lieutenant on board, took upon him the command of the ship.

Mr. Tomlins, the surgeon, who had incurred the displeasure of Crampley, for no other reason but that of his treating Roderick with every mark of respect, soon felt the resentment of the new captain : On a pretence of the slightest and most insignificant nature, he ordered him to be confined to his cabin, where he died in a few days of a fever, occasioned by the closeness of the place, and the want of fresh air. This was a mortifying stroke to Roderick, who now lost the only friend he had on board ; and the captain, who still retained his implacable resentment,

ment, treated him in the most inhuman and cruel manner. After being seven weeks at sea, the gunner told the captain that they were within soundings, and that it was necessary to heave the lead ; but the captain refused to comply, alledging, as an excuse, that the gunner was utterly ignorant of navigation, and that they were not within a hundred leagues of land. Next night the ship struck upon a rock, and the seamen, in order to save themselves, were obliged to take to the boat ; upon which the gunner, who had been confined by the captain's orders, was released, and consulted concerning the most proper methods to be used in saving the people. All endeavours, however, proved ineffectual, and the seamen became so outrageous, that they burst open the purser's store-room, and many of them drank to such excess that they forgot their danger. Crampley was the first who got into the boat ; and such was his malice, that when Roderick, who had put on his sword and best suit of cloaths, jumped in after him, he attempted to throw him into the sea. In that, however, he failed ; and no sooner had they got on shore, than Roderick, who boiled with indignation, challenged him to single combat, and the challenge was accepted. The contest between the two combatants was extremely furious, for Roderick knocked out two of Crampley's teeth, and cut him across the hand ; but in the mean time some of the sailors, influenced by the captain, came up, and assailed Roderick on every side, so that he was obliged to give way to superior numbers, and, after having exerted himself to the utmost, was left for dead on the spot.

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He lay for some time in a state of insensibility; but having recovered the use of his reason, he found that he had been robbed of all the money he had in his pocket. This was a most mortifying consideration, especially as he was in a place where no person knew him; but his resolution and presence of mind did not forsake him in that extremity. Accordingly he got up, and crawled to the barn of a farm-house, where, finding the door open, he went in, and laid himself down on a truss of straw. He was so much exhausted with the loss of blood, that he could not speak, and a clown coming in, would have run a pitchfork into him, had not he made a sign with his hand to restrain him.

The whole village was now in an uproar, and Roderick being put on a wheel-barrow, was sent to the church-warden, who refused to take him in, as the parson was richer than him, and ought to practice as well as preach charity. The parson, however, instead of reducing his rules to practice, threatened to excommunicate all those who had been concerned in bringing him to his house.—Such, in general, is the conduct of all pretenders to religion, when they meet with a poor person in distress.

Thus carried about from place to place, like a dead dog whose skin was to be dressed for the use of glovers, poor Roderick, who was still unable to speak, was flung down in a hog-stye, where he must have perished, had not an old woman who lived in the village, and who was reputed a witch, taken him under her protection. By her care in administering cordials to him, and dressing his wounds, he was soon restored to his

his former state of health and strength ; and, during the time he was recovering, he recounted to her the whole series of his misfortunes, which, upon the whole, though numerous, were but trifling when compared with her own.

Born of an honourable family, and educated in the most tender and indulgent manner, she had, consistent with the nature and bent of her own inclinations, married a young gentleman who had the command of a company in the army. The affair, however, could not be long concealed from her parents, and the young gentleman being obliged to go with his regiment to Flanders, was soon after killed, and his wife left a disconsolate widow.

Deserted by her relations, who treated her with the utmost contempt, and deprived of a beloved husband, she mustered up what trifle of money she could raise, and, with another female companion, whose husband had also been killed, took the cottage where she then lived. The vulgar and unpolished manners of the people, made them keep entirely to themselves, and, for that reason, they were represented as witches, no person being able to divine in what manner they lived. These vulgar reproaches, however, did not in the least trouble them, and her companion being sometime dead, the good old woman told Roderick, that she waited for her dissolution with patience and resignation.

The whole behaviour of this most amiable woman, though now far advanced in years, convinced Roderick, that she was a person in whom he might place the utmost confidence. He told her that he intended to travel to London, in order

der to obtain his wages, and get a birth on board another ship; but she dissuaded him from that measure, because he would be in danger of being taken up for a deserter, and for having challenged his superior officer to fight with him, so that he might possibly be punished in the severest manner. Roderick was sensible of the force of her instructions, and what confirmed him the more in it was, that the gunner of the Lizard, in consequence of his knowledge of navigation, had remained on board the sloop till it was high water, and then he brought her off in safety; and that she was now in the river Thames.

The old gentlewoman told him, that there was a lady in the neighbourhood who wanted a footman, and, however humiliating it might be for him to submit to such a station, yet necessity obliged him to comply, and he took possession of his new place in the most formal manner. Next day being called upon to attend his lady at dinner, he found her one of those females, who, in consequence of a disappointment in a love intrigue, had given herself up to melancholy; and then, in order to divert herself, had taken to the reading of romances, and some of the classics that had been translated into modern languages, for she was well acquainted with the Spanish, French, and Italian, and had read *Don Quixote* in the original, *Orlando Furioso*, and the famous poem of Tasso on the siege of Jerusalem.

She had along with her a niece, a young lady not much turned of seventeen, who, although subservient to her aunt's orders, yet did not inherit any of her foibles. Narcissa, for that was the

the name of the young lady, had so many engaging qualities, that it was in a manner impossible to behold her without being immediately in love. She was sensible of those failings that had distracted the brains of her aunt, and she resolved to profit by her misfortune without triumphing over it. At that time the young lady was courted by a brute, or, in other words, a country savage, for whom she had the utmost aversion; but her aunt, whose intellects were none of the best, and who hated young people in general because she was herself turned of forty, countenanced the suit, as she had, in consequence of her own misfortune, imbibed the notion, that no young persons of either sex had a right to dispose of themselves without the consent of their superiors. In the mean time, Narcissa made an impression on the heart of Roderick, which was not deaf to the soft emotions of love, nor was the young lady insensible of the many qualities with which he was adorned.

The old lady, notwithstanding her attachment to things of a very trifling nature, yet was well acquainted with learning in general. Nor was she a stranger to real merit, for she soon discovered something in Roderick that seemed to indicate that he was rather superior to livery servants in general.

The young lady treated her aunt with all the respect due to her age and character, and they often conversed together on the beauties of the most illustrious authors among the moderns, whether foreign or domestic. One day, while they were at dinner, the conversation turned upon a disputed point in Tasso, and Roderick having explained

explained it to them, they were both struck with surprise, but much more so when his vanity prompted him to tell the lady, that education was so cheap in his country, that although he was no more than a footman, yet he had acquired a perfect knowledge of the Latin and Greek classics, with the mathematics, and all the parts of moral and natural philosophy, besides logick, astronomy, and the use of the globes.

Next day the old lady took him into her study, and shewed him some verses composed by herself, desiring, at the same time, to see some of his. Her's were indeed little better than nonsense, but for all that Roderick was obliged to approve of them, while his own were condemned, although deserving of the highest praise. Narcissa, who was called in to give her opinion, declared, that she was no judge of those matters, but no sooner had she gone to her own apartment, than she told the waiting maid, who informed Roderick, that she was extremely well pleased with his verses.

In the mean time, his many amiable qualities, though concealed, as it were, under a suit of livery, could not fail of making him be taken notice of. The cook-maid and the dairy-maid were both in love with him, which so enraged the gardener and the coachman, that the former challenged Roderick to a boxing-match. In answer to this challenge, Roderick told the coachman, that he would fight him with swords or pistols, but would never demean himself so low as to fight like a porter. Upon which poor Smack was so intimidated, that he said no more,
while

while Roderick was looked upon as a gentleman.

Roderick, who seemed to have been born to be the sport of fortune, did not remain long in his new station, when an unfortunate incident drove him once more loose upon the world.

Narcissa, the dear object of his affection, but to whom he could not, consistent with his station and circumstances, discover his passion, went one day on a visit to Miss Thicket, who lived with her brother, a country 'squire, in the same neighbourhood. In the evening she returned home, but in her way to her aunt's house was overtaken by Sir Timothy, a brutish knight, who attempted to ravish her, but Roderick, at that time coming up, knocked him down, and rescued his lovely charmer. He knew, however, that it would be impossible for him to remain in the place any longer, and therefore having told Narcissa that he was an unfortunate gentleman, he left her, and set out for the house of Mrs. Sagely, the good old woman who had been so kind to him when he was left in a forlorn condition. This humane woman advised him to leave the country immediately, which he resolved to do, but no sooner had he got to the sea side, than he was taken by a parcel of smugglers, who carried him over to Boulogne, in France.

As soon as he had got himself disengaged from the smugglers, he went into a public house, but how great was his surprise, when, in a solitary corner of the tap-room, he saw his uncle lieutenant Bowling, smoaking a pipe in the most disconsolate manner, while some Dutch sailors were

were eating and drinking, according to the custom of their country, without taking any notice of him. It was some time before Roderick could make his uncle believe the identity of his person, for he imagined that he was a sharper who wanted to impose on him; but at last, having convinced him, the honest tar burst into tears, while Roderick, who had about six guineas in his pocket, offered him the whole. The lieutenant, whose disinterestedness was equal to all his other virtues, refused to take any more than two, which he said was sufficient to carry him over to England, where he doubted not but justice would be done him. He told him further, that he had been shipwrecked a few days before, but now that he had got money to pay for his passage to England, he would solicit the Lords of the Admiralty, for he was well acquainted with the porter, who could be no stranger to the secretary.

Having regaled themselves with a morsel of bread and cheese, the good old lieutenant went out with Roderick, and took his passage on board a cutter for Deal, and while they were walking near the shore, they met an old Scotchman, a priest, who lived in one of the neighbouring convents. He was a man of a very venerable aspect, and although a slave to bigotry, like all those of his order, yet he possessed no small share of good nature, and offered to use all his influence in promoting Roderick's fortune, on condition that he would consent to remain in France. This was no ways pleasing to the lieutenant, who was afraid that his nephew would change his religion, and therefore a smart dialogue ensued between him and the priest. The

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lieutenant cursed the pope, the devil, and the pretender, which so enraged the priest, that had he not been his countryman, he would have gone and lodged an information against him. At last Roderick interfered, and both the contending parties having shook hands as a token of reconciliation, the priest treated them with an elegant supper in his convent, after which the lieutenant went on board the cutter that was to convey him to Deal.

Roderick having once more lost his generous and benevolent uncle, and being in great perplexity of mind what course to take in order to procure a subsistence, went to bed for the night, and next morning returned to the convent. There he met the priest, who treated him in the same benevolent manner as before, and told him, that if he would renounce the Protestant religion, and take orders in the church of Rome, he would procure him preferment. This was what Roderick would by no means comply with, telling him that he would rather go into the army; but the priest answered, that he could never expect to procure preferment in the army, unless he was a catholic. At last, finding him obstinate, and at the same time seeing him in distress, he told him, that if he intended to travel to Paris, he would give him a recommendation to a family that wanted a servant. This was joyful news to Roderick, who next morning set out in company with a Capuchin, to whose care he had been recommended by the Scotch priest; but when they had got as far as Amiens, the priest got up in the night, and robbed poor Roderick of all his money, after which he left him to lament his loss.

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In that deplorable condition, Roderick gave himself up to despair, and went into the fields, where he sat down under a tree, but had not been long there when a company of soldiers came up, and his distress induced him to enlist with them.

He was soon after sent to join the army, then forming in Germany, and the hardships he suffered were such as are scarce to be paralleled, for he was obliged to walk whole days without any sort of subsistence, along with a parcel of half-starved wretches, who had scarce the resemblance of men.

The battle of Dettingen happened soon after, and Roderick could not help making some very shrewd remarks upon it. He took notice, that the English commander had left the army exposed, between a mountain on the one side and a river on the other, and that it was next to a miracle they were not all cut in pieces, and their king taken prisoner. He likewise observed, that the French, by their imprudence, lost one of the most favourable opportunities that ever occurred to them during the war. So that the one escaped by chance, and the other was left to improve that victory which they had lost; a strong proof of errors on both sides.

Soon after the battle, the regiment to which Roderick belonged was ordered home to winter quarters in Rheims, where he had not been long, when one day, as he was standing sentinel on a general officer, he saw a person in mourning come out, who, by his features, appeared to be his old friend Strap, the barber. He could not conceive how he could be so much transformed

into the character of a gentleman, as his behaviour before was rather simple and clownish ; but having asked a Swiss servant, who was porter at the gate, he was informed that he had been *valet* to a gentleman lately deceased, and that his master had left him all his moveables. This was joyful news to Roderick, who, as soon as the guard was relieved, went to visit his friend Strap, and was received in the same cordial manner as when he was in a humble station. Strap procured his discharge from the army, in consequence of the interest that he had with a nobleman of France ; and then our two adventurers set out together for Paris, where they tarried about a month, to see every thing curious in that celebrated metropolis. They then hired a post-chaise for Calais, and taking their passage on board the packet, arrived safely in England.

When they arrived in London, Strap was sent to Union-stairs, at Wapping, to enquire for lieutenant Bowling, but was informed, that after he had spent several months in a fruitless application to the Lords of the Admiralty, he had been obliged to go as mate on board a merchant ship bound for the West Indies.

Roderick, although inured to many hardships, yet had not divested himself of vanity, or that sort of affectation which never fails to make its votaries truly ridiculous. Accordingly he took lodgings at Charing-Cross, and furnished himself with every thing in the most genteel taste, with the money that poor Strap had saved, hoping thereby to captivate the heart of some rich heiress, or a young widow with a large jointure. Next night he went to the play, where he imagined the

the eyes of the auditory would be as much fixed upon him as on those who performed on the stage. In that, however, he found himself deceived, for most of the ladies were engaged ; till at last seeing one disengaged, he went to her box, and offered, in the most complaisant manner, to conduct her home. The nymph pretended to be in great confusion because of the absence of her footman, who, according to her account, had given her the slip ; so that Strap was dispatched to bring a chair. No chair being disengaged, Roderick by this time had seen enough to convince him that his supposed fair enamorado was neither more nor less than a woman of the town, and therefore calling a hackney coach, he put her into it, and bid the coachman drive home to Sir John's, the person whom, according to her own account, was her husband. This exasperated her so much, that she discovered herself in her native colours, and poured out a volley of oaths, calling him a mean beggarly scoundrel, and at the same time intimating, that although he made a genteel appearance, yet she was sure he had not a shilling in his pocket.

Going on in this dissipated manner, he got into the company of a parcel of coffee-house politicians, some of whom were Romish priests, and others such as had been discarded from places under the government. With them he spent his time till his money was pretty near gone ; for he never could join prudence to the rest of his conduct, till forced thereto by necessity, and the want of the comforts of life.

In the mean time, Strap, by whose bounteous liberality Roderick had been so long supported,

fell in love with the widow of a tallow chandler, who lived in the same neighbourhood, and was reported to be worth money. Roderick, who notwithstanding all his dissipation, had a sound mind when he could give himself time to reflect, told Strap, that before he went any further in an affair of such importance, he would be glad to see the lady.

This Strap readily complied with, but no sooner had Roderick seen her, than he conjectured she was with child, and communicated his suspicions to poor Strap, who was very much surprised; but in less than three weeks afterwards, the lady was delivered of a fine boy, and an execution was served in the house by the sheriff of Middlesex, in consequence of judgment being entered up against the widow. Many attempts had been hitherto made by Roderick, in order to render himself independent by marrying a rich heiress or widow, but all to no purpose, for he was either tantalized by the ladies who looked upon him as a sharper, or made the dupe of kept mistresses, whose sole intention was to make use of him as a cloak to hide them from the bailiffs.

Growing weary by a succession of disappointments, he became melancholy, and had almost given himself up to despair; but while he was thinking on the most proper methods to be used, he received a letter written by a female hand, desiring him to meet her at her house next morning. This was most agreeable news to our adventurer, who in order to satisfy himself sent Strap to make what observations he could, but how great was his surprize, when he learned that the lady who
lived

lived in the house was possessed of an immense fortune. He communicated his intelligence to Roderick, who fled to the place of assignation; but instead of meeting with a young lady endowed with female charms, he was introduced to an old wrinkled hag, who acted as house-keeper. This shocked him so much, that he could scarce utter one word, although the hoary dulcinea said all she could to keep up his spirits. Having made an apology in the best manner he could, he left the house and went home to his lodgings with a heavy heart. Strap could not help taking notice of it, and for some time neither of them spoke to each other; a circumstance that may serve to convince youth, that nothing can be more dangerous than practices not founded on the principles of virtue.

There are no rocks upon which unfortunate young gentlemen have split, so dangerous as the promises of ministers of state, or noblemen of broken fortunes. In most of these promises there is seldom any sincerity, nor is the performance of them ever considered as a duty. The nobleman prides himself upon his elevated title, while the poor dependant, buoyed up with the hopes of success, forgets to apply himself to some useful employment, till poverty overtakes him, and then he is discarded by the person, who first made him hope for preferment. This was just the case with Roderick, who happening to get acquainted with two noblemen at a gaming table, made his court to them, and desired that they would procure him some employment under the government. This request was no sooner made, than both promised that it should be granted,

although it was not in their power, nor was any thing further from their intention. One of these noblemen, Earl Strutwell, invited Roderick to his house; but he could not be admitted till he had feed both the porter and the footman, and then he was treated with every mark of respect; the Earl, who was a notorious sodomite, having intended to make him the object of his unnatural desires.

It was by a most covert insinuation, that he conveyed his notions to Roderick, who seemed not to understand him, but being shocked at the thoughts of the crime, he pulled out his watch to look at the time, in order to go away. No sooner had his lordship seen the watch, than he began to admire its curious workmanship; and Roderick, to whom he had promised the place of secretary to an ambassador, begged him to accept of it as a present. At the same time he gave the Earl a fine diamond ring, which had been left to Strap by his master, and then taking his leave, went home to inform the poor barber that his fortune was made. Strap shed tears of joy, and capered about like a madman; but next day Roderick learned from Banter, one of his companions, that Earl Strutwell was a most notorious sharper. Banter told him that if he had much money left, his best method was to purchase a halter, for as to any promises made to him by Strutwell, he would be hanged before they were fulfilled. This was a most mortifying story to one who imagined himself on the pinnacle of honour, and his mind was lost in the most agonizing reflections. He began to revolve in his mind the whole conduct of Strutwell, which he

he found tally exactly with the account given of him by Banter, and therefore resolved if possible to recover his watch and his ring.

This stratagem however could not succeed, for his Lordship was for the future very shy in speaking to him, so that all his hopes vanished, and in a short time he was reduced to his last guinea. The necessity of his circumstances obliged him, though unwillingly, to make his case known to Strap, and to desire him to pawn his sword, not doubting but that in a few days he would be able to extricate himself out of all his difficulties. The poor barber, although he loved him in the sincerest manner, yet had such notions of oeconomy, that the word pawn was like a dagger to his heart. He was however obliged to comply, and having procured seven guineas upon the sword, Roderick, who did not think of to-morrow, considered himself as happy as if he had been in possession of five hundred pounds bank stock.

The same day that he received the seven guineas, his landlord put him in mind that he owed five for rent ; and telling him that he had a sum of money to make up, desired he would let him have it. However shocking this news was, yet the pride of Roderick was such, that it took the alarm, and he gave him the money, while Strap who was present wrung his hands, and looked like one who had been abandoned to the utmost state of despair, seeing nothing but misery before him.

With the other two guineas Roderick sallied forth, not minding where he went, and the same evening, or rather by next morning he found himself in possession of one hundred and fifty

guineas, which he had picked up at a gaming table, amidst a great number of sharpers, all of whom were under the protection of a Scotch peer, whose sole employment after spending his estate was that of ruining the young nobility and gentry,

When he came home in the morning he found poor Strap drowned in tears, for he doubted not but that the last shilling was spent. Strap was ordered to bring some water, and while he was gone, Roderick, who could not behold his sorrow with indifference, spread all the money upon the table. This was such a surprising sight to the poor honest barber, that he was almost deprived of his reason, and for some time imagined that such a vast treasure had not been procured in an honest manner; but Roderick undeceived him, by letting him know that he had won it at a gaming table, and desired him to go and redeem the sword. For some time Strap acted in such a ludicrous manner, that Roderick lost all patience, and catching hold of him, asked him, why he did not do as he ordered; to which the other who had now come to himself, answered, that he was overpowered with joy, but that he was now ready to obey.

The sword being redeemed, and every thing settled to the satisfaction of honest Strap, Roderick, who had no intention to go to sleep, prepared to set out; but just as he was going to leave the room, he was informed that a gentlewoman below desired to speak with him. Strap was ordered to conduct her up stairs; but how great was his surprise, when in her features he beheld Mrs. Gawkey, the daughter of his old master,
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Mr. Lavement the apothecary. She was apparently in great distress, and told him, that she had had the misfortune to be delivered of a child about four months after her marriage; upon which she had been discarded by her parents, and her husband going abroad with the army had deserted at Dettingen, so that she was left exposed to the hardships of an injurious world.—That she had for the most part subsisted on the bounty of her friends; but most of them being wearied out with her continual solicitations, she had ventured to apply to him. She told him, that she was a most wicked wretch in having laid a plot to ruin him; and Roderick, finding her really sincere, got her to make oath of the whole before a magistrate; after which he gave her five guineas, and interceded so far with her father as to get him to allow her a small annuity, for he absolutely refused taking her home to his house.

The next thing that Roderick had in view, was that of purchasing new cloaths, for although those he had were extremely elegant, yet he had worn them so often, that he imagined most of his acquaintance would imagine he had no others. Here his pride was stimulated, and therefore he collected together such suits as were best known, and sold them to a salesman in Monmouth-street; taking care to purchase two other suits with the money he received for them. He then went to consult his friend Banter, who told him, that he had a relation, a young lady, who was to set out in a few days for Bath, and as she was possessed of a fortune of twenty thousand pounds, he had much better accompany her, and by that means make his fortune; which would be much

better than dancing attendance on ministers, who were ready to promise every thing, but never performed those promises. He intimated that she was deformed, but the money would make amends for all deficiencies ; and that, if he acted prudently, he might soon find himself in very opulent circumstances. Banter added further, that he would have made love to the young lady himself, but he had disoblged her mother by borrowing a small sum of her, and for that reason he was denied admittance into her house, or leave to speak to her daughter.

This was a proposal of too valuable a nature to be rejected by Roderick, who by this time was become a fortune-hunter in the utmost extent of the word. He had spent his time in London to no other purposes, except that of spending the fruits of Strap's industry, and therefore it was an indifferent matter to him where he went. He communicated his intentions to the faithful barber, who coincided with every thing ; and accordingly places were taken for them in the stage, which set out next day before it was light.

It was sometime before the passengers could recognize each other ; but after they had got off the stones, a gentleman who had a commission in the army began to swear in the most outrageous manner, that the coachman did not understand military discipline ; while a lawyer, who sat next to him, coolly replied, that they ought to have examined the title deeds before they entered on the premises. No person taking any notice of what they said, the military gentleman exclaimed, that he had got into a silent meeting of quakers ; to which the young decrepid lady answered,

answered, that he was certainly in the right, for the spirit of folly was beginning to move. Several smart repartees passed between the soldier and miss; but the old lady interposing, desired her daughter to be more watchful over her tongue, and not lay herself open to censure by her impertinence.

The soldier then went on in a long detail of the many feats that he had performed in the army, particularly at the battle of Dettingen, where he asserted that the British army was saved by his valour and prudence. The young lady, who could not conceal her loquacity, told the captain that he spoke in such terms that she was not able to comprehend his meaning. This was just what the officer wanted, who told her that he was not obliged to find her intellects, for fools were to be met with every where. The young lady answered, that he was not obliged to speak sense; upon which the lawyer interposed and said, that there were some words which must not be spoken, namely, treason and defamation! For instance (said he) you dare not call me a rogue. But I can think you so, (answered the lawyer) and then laughed in the most immoderate manner, but no person seemed to honour him with their approbation. The lawyer advised him to take care of what he said, lest an action on the case should lay for the recovery of damages, and if an appearance was not entered, judgment would go by default. On the other hand, the soldier swore in such a profane manner, that every person in the coach was afraid to speak with him, and in this manner they continued till day light.

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In the morning, Roderick was surprized to find Miss Snapper, the young lady, far from being so deformed as she had been represented; she was not indeed handsome, but she had such a flow of spirits, such a delicacy of sentiment, and so much real wit, that it was almost impossible not to fall in love with her. She was extremely merry at the expence of the military gentleman; and there being another lady in the coach, who protested that she was not afraid of being robbed, a smart dialogue ensued between her and miss concerning property.

The prim lady observed, that those who had nothing to lose were always the most afraid; but miss, with the greatest good nature, and not in the least ruffled, told her that she did not pretend to be rich, and as the captain had undertaken to fight the first highwayman that made his appearance, she endeavoured to prevail with him to desist, upon condition that all the passengers should be indemnified for their loss. Mrs. Snapper, the mother of the young lady, lost all manner of patience, and told the prim lady that she had no right to call her daughter poor; and they would certainly have fought, had not Strap come up, and informed them of the danger concerning which they had been spending their time in disputing.

This was no other than two knights of the road, who were advancing with hasty strides to rob the passengers. The ladies were much frightened. The lawyer said they might sue the county; but Roderick, who wanted to give his mistress some proof of his courage, jumped out of the coach, calling upon the captain to follow him.

him. This, however, the captain had no intention to comply with, and Roderick, mounting on Strap's horse, pursued the thieves, and soon after one of them fell, but the other made his escape. In the mean time the country people came up, and among the rest a farmer, who declared that they had robbed him that morning of twenty guineas in a canvas bag; upon which the highwayman was secured, and committed to prison.

When Roderick returned to the coach, he found the captain and the lawyer administering cordials to the lady who had pretended so much indifference about being robbed; for it seems that, as soon as she heard of the approach of the highwaymen, she had fallen into fits.

The young lady applauded Roderick for his courage, and at the same time threw out some severe sarcasms on the captain, who, in return, swore a volley of the most profane oaths. The prim lady, who had behaved with so much coquetry, said, she wondered how any person could act in so brutal a manner as Roderick had done, for the sake of a mean paltry trifle, but it was a sure sign he had not much to lose. This so much exasperated Roderick, that he called the captain a coward, and told the lady who was so fond of her own importance, that if any highwayman should attack them during the remaining part of the journey, he would with the utmost pleasure suffer her to be robbed.

About nine in the morning the coach stopped at the inn, and our six passengers went to breakfast in the following order: Mrs. Snapper and her daughter into one room; the captain and the
precise

precise lady into another ; while Roderick was obliged to put up with the lawyer for his partner, and these two, in the most friendly manner, occupied the third.

The lawyer, who was an arch wag, entertained Roderick during breakfast in the most diverting manner, and in terms peculiar to his own profession. He told him, that he supposed the captain was an able conveyancer, and therefore he doubted not but he would make the lady with whom he was in company a good settlement in tail. He added, that he was extremely pleased with the sprightly conversation of Miss Snapper, but was sorry to find that she was saddled with so many incumbrances.

Breakfast being over, Roderick and the lawyer, with Mrs. Snapper and her daughter, took their places in the coach, but the military gentleman and the other lady were wanting. Smack, the coachman, who was obliged to keep to his time, went to summons them, and they made their appearance with very evident marks of confusion. This furnished a new topic for the lawyer to display his wit, who told the captain, that he supposed he had been disappointed in his trial, but he might, if he thought proper, join issue at the next stage ; which so exasperated the son of Mars, that he threatened to cut his nose off.

Nothing of any importance happened during the remaining part of the journey, only that on the first day, when they came to dinner, all the victuals were bespoke for the retinue of a nobleman who had been on a hunting match. This was a mortifying stroke to the captain, who was extremely hungry, and obliged to put up with a
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little bread and cheese ; but Roderick took care to procure a couple of fowls and some bacon for the ladies, and dined along with Mrs. Snapper and her daughter ; for the precise lady had met with her husband, who was no other than a servant belonging to the nobleman who had bespoke the victuals.

When they arrived at Bath, Roderick waited on the young lady at her mother's lodgings, which had been provided for her in the most genteel part of the city ; and there he took the opportunity to tell her that he was enamoured of her, on account of the brilliancy of her wit, which exceeded any thing he had ever met with. Miss checked him, by putting him in mind that she valued his friendship, but as she had no intention to give up her liberty, she begged that, for the future, he would never say any thing more on a subject that was disagreeable to her.

Next night they went to the assembly ; but how great was Roderick's surprize, when he saw a gentleman come into the room leading in his hand the adorable Narcissa, for whose sake he had undergone so many hardships. Love and jealousy strove together in his mind ; he imagined that the dear object of his affections had been married, and that the person who conducted her was her husband ; but, upon more mature recollection, he discovered his mistake, and found that he was only her brother, whom he had often seen when he lived with her aunt.

He was so much confused that he could not behave in a manner consistent with true politeness to Miss Snapper, and that young lady was too much of a wit not to discover that something
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more than ordinary agitated his mind. When the entertainment was over he offered to conduct her home ; but she begged to be excused, telling him that she had more regard for his health than to suffer him to expose himself to the cold in a severe frosty evening ; so that he was obliged to put up with this sarcasm, and return to his old friend Strap.

Next morning Roderick went to the pump-room, where he had not been long when he was accosted by Miss Williams, the unfortunate young lady whose life he had in a great manner contributed to save. She told him that she was servant to Narcissa, and that she had been sent out that morning to make enquiries concerning him ; that her lady had spoke of him very favourably the preceding evening ; but although he had served her aunt in the character of a footman, yet she was still ignorant of his name, though no stranger to his many amiable qualities. This was most agreeable news to Roderick, and had it not been for the persuasion of Miss Williams, he would that moment have gone and waited on his charmer. In the afternoon he drank tea with Mr. Freeman, a gentleman to whom he had been recommended by his friend Banter ; but had not been long there, when the fox-hunter, the brother of Narcissa, came in. Good humour took place, and in the evening Mr. Freeman, who was utterly a stranger to any connections that Roderick had with Narcissa, conducted him to her brother's lodgings, where he was received in the most polite manner.

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He was not so happy as to see his charmer that night; but, being invited to dinner next day, she appeared at table in all those graces that render female charms irresistible. It was scarce possible for Roderick to conceal his emotions, but her brother was too much of a brute to take notice of them.

Dinner being ended, the squire, consistent with his common practice, went to take his nap, which afforded Roderick an opportunity of conversing with his young lady; who informed him that the squire, on whose account he had been obliged to abscond, was dead; that her brother was still unmarried; and that her aunt, among her other wild unaccountable whims, had taken it into her head to marry the parish schoolmaster. She added, that she was not at her own disposal, her fortune being wholly in the hands of her brother; but she concluded with giving him hopes, that she would not bestow her hand on another, while he continued to act consistent with the dictates of reason and prudence, as a gentleman.

Next morning Miss Williams came, and informed Roderick that he might be under no manner of apprehension concerning his fair mistress, because her mind was wholly fixed upon him, and she was determined to wait with patience for a proper opportunity to give him a real proof of her love. Roderick was so overjoyed, that nothing would satisfy him but that of writing to his charmer; but Miss Williams dissuaded him from it.

Mr. Freeman, the person to whom he had been recommended by Banter, advised him to
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make the squire, Narcissa's brother, his friend ; and he told him that no method was more likely to be attended with success, than that of drinking with him a whole night, till such time as he should be like one of those beasts which he had often hunted. This Roderick willingly complied with, and after a whole night's debauch, the squire was so well pleased with him, that he gave him leave to dance with his sister at a ball. There, however, his jealousy took the alarm, for a nobleman present seemed to take more than ordinary notice of Narcissa ; but no sooner was the dancing over, than the young lady gave him the utmost satisfaction with respect to the sincerity of her intentions.

The nobleman who had taken such particular notice of Narcissa, was one Lord Quiverwit, a young person of some abilities, and not despicable in his figure ; but he had spoiled all his mental faculties, and rendered himself truly despicable, by affecting to be what he was not, and imitating the fops who make so conspicuous a figure at the court end of the town. No stranger to the differences that take place in human life, and by which human characters are known, he found out the real sentiments of the squire, brother to Narcissa, and began to attack him on the weak side. He insinuated that Roderick was only a needy sharper, that he had come to Bath in quest of a fortune, and that if he did not take care of his sister she would be inevitably ruined. That he was ready to make honourable professions of love to her, and to make her a settlement suitable to her rank. This was so pleasing to the squire, that he gave him leave to visit his
sister,

sister, and Roderick was for the future treated in a very cold indifferent manner.

It was the misfortune of our hero, that he could never hear of any person treating him with disrespect, than he resolved to take a cruel revenge. Accordingly, having learned that Lord Quiverwit had traduced his character, he sent him a challenge, which was accepted, and both parties met in an adjacent field. Roderick, with his usual vivacity, beat and disarmed his antagonist; but not before both had been wounded, and then they were conducted to their respective lodgings.

The duel made a great noise at Bath; but both parties being recovered, Lord Quiverwit sent a message to Roderick, desiring to speak with him. He went at the time fixed on, and after some conversation Roderick flew into a most violent passion, and left his lordship in disgust, threatening to be revenged on him as soon as an opportunity offered.

In the mean time the squire, who had no inclination to engage in duels, except with a fox or buck, left Bath all on a sudden, and took his sister with him. This was undoubtedly a prudent step, for dangerous consequences might have happened had they staid there any longer. Roderick no sooner learned that they were gone, than he went to the gaming-table, where he lost all his money except a trifle; and being vexed to the heart, he set out for London in the most wretched condition, taking Strap along with him. Soon after his arrival in London, he received a letter from Narcissa, informing him that she was so closely watched by her brother, that she
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was not suffered to receive any letters, nor to see company unless by his permission; but that her affections to him were unalterable. Had Roderick been in comfortable circumstances, this would have been most joyful news to him; but he was so distressed that he knew not what to do. He consulted his friend Banter, who advised him to get credit with his taylor for cloaths, and then sell them at half price. However wild and extravagant this scheme was, Roderick, whose circumstances were now become desperate, actually put it in execution. He procured cloaths to the amount of fifty pounds, and the same day sold them to a salesman in Monmouth-street. The money was spent in the same dissipated manner as all the rest had been, and the taylor having learned in what manner he was treated, took out a writ, by virtue of which Roderick was arrested, and carried to the Marshalsea prison; while poor honest Strap, who still continued his friend, went to work as a journeyman barber, and with his wages continued to support Roderick in the most generous manner.

When Roderick had been about six months in prison he became a perfect sloven, neglecting to take any notice of his person, or even to attend to common decency in his behaviour. His old friend Jackson, who happened to be there a prisoner at the same time, entertained him with an account of his adventures, which were no more than the recital of follies and extravagancies.

At last Lieutenant Bowling, who had been some time at sea, returned; and having learned that his poor nephew Roderick was a prisoner, went to the Marshalsea to visit him.

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As welcome as the appearance of a spring of clear water is to the wandering Arab, so welcome was Lieutenant Bowling to poor Roderick. He paid his debts, and telling him that he was going on a trading voyage, proposed that he should go with him in quality of surgeon. It was agreed that Strap should go as steward of the ship, and all things being ready for their departure, the ship set sail for the Downs. Here they were some time detained by contrary winds, and Roderick took that opportunity of going on shore to visit Mrs. Sagely, the old gentlewoman who had treated him with so much humanity when cast ashore on the coast of Suffex.

The good woman received him in the same benevolent manner she had always treated him; gave him the best advice she could, and at the same time procured him an interview with Narcissa. Having taken leave of that amiable young lady, he set out for Dover, and went on board; after which a bright gale springing up, they were conveyed out of the Channel, and proceeded to the coast of Guinea, where they purchased four hundred slaves, and set sail with them for Paraguay in South America. There they disposed of the slaves, and while they lay at anchor, the captain, with Roderick and Strap, went on a visit to a Spanish don, who lived some miles up the country. The gentleman treated them with the greatest kindness, and finding they were all natives of Scotland, asked them several questions relating to that country. In particular he fixed his eyes on Roderick, and no sooner had he learned his name, and that of his family, than he embraced him with tears of joy,
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and told him that he was his father. This declaration disconcerted every one present ; but the gentleman, who was really what he pretended to be, made them sensible that he was the son of the inhuman justice, and that when his beloved wife died, he had left the place of his nativity and gone to settle in the West Indies, where he had acquired an independent fortune. He added, that he intended to return to Europe ; and having converted all his effects into money, he set sail with Captain Bowling and the rest of the company for Jamaica. While they were at Jamaica, Roderick went to visit his old friend Thompson, and found that he had married his master's daughter, and consequently was in possession of his whole estate. From Jamaica they set sail for England, and when they came to Portsmouth Roderick desired to be set on shore. His request was granted, and having hired a horse, he set out for the house of Mrs. Sagely in Sussex, where he learned that Narcissa was in London ; upon which he left the place, and set out for Canterbury. There he met with his old friend Morgan, who had married the widow of an apothecary, and was settled in very reputable circumstances. The honest Welchman treated him with all that good-nature peculiar to himself ; and Roderick, having spent a day with him, took leave in order to set out for London. As good-fortune would have it, the ship was there before him, and his father received him in the most paternal manner, while Strap embraced him with tears of joy.

The next thing was to find out the lovely Narcissa, to whom Roderick was introduced by
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Miss Williams, who still attended on that lady. He was received agreeable to his wishes; and although her brother refused to give his consent to her nuptials, yet they ventured upon marriage by the consent of Roderick's father; who was in possession of an ample fortune, all which was at the service of his son.

Strap, who had so long distinguished himself in assisting and supporting Roderick during his misfortunes, was married to the amiable Miss Williams, who had been led to wisdom by her troubles. At last the squire was reconciled to his sister; and our hero, with his beloved spouse, and the rest of his friends, set out for Scotland, where they purchased the family estate, that had been mortgaged by the young spark who had been left heir by the old justice. Strap was appointed steward to the estate, with a considerable allowance annually; and our adventurer, having discharged all the obligations he was under to his old friends, went to reside at the mansion-house, from whence he had been often driven away by dogs. From this we may learn, that no person, whatever his distress may be, ought to despair; but to persist in a course of virtue, expecting the divine blessing at last.

THE
ADVENTURES

OF

JOSEPH ANDREWS,

AND HIS FRIEND

ABRAHAM ADAMS.

THIS novel, written by Mr. Fielding, is the first ever attempted in the English language, on the plan laid down by that celebrated Spanish author Cervantes.

In Joseph Andrews we have a character, that ought to be imitated by all those young persons who would wish to enjoy the reward of virtue; nor is that of Mr. Adams less remarkable. That most excellent man is a picture of real genuine simplicity, though adorned with all the learning of the schools. At the same time we

find him only acquainted with the fair side of human nature; for a stranger to vice in his own practice, he never suspects it in others. Deeply impressed with the love of his fellow creatures, he left nothing undone to promote their happiness; so that, although situated in an humble station, yet he became an honour to his profession. Upon the whole, the Adventures of Joseph Andrews is a complete master-piece; and the sentiments contained in it cannot fail of being serviceable to virtue in general.

JOSEPH ANDREWS was reputed to be the son of a poor cottager, who gave him as much education as he could, consistent with the nature of his circumstances; and when he was about ten years of age, he was taken into the service of Sir Thomas Booby, as whipper-in under the game-keeper. Humble as that station was, Joseph was contented with it, and his assiduity raised him to attend under the hostler in the stable. The neighbouring squires, who came to visit at the knight's house, were extremely fond of young Joey; and so expert was he at riding, that several wagers were laid upon his skill in that exercise.

When he was about seventeen years of age his lady took him to be her own footboy, and as he constantly attended her to church, the curate of the parish took notice of his exemplary behaviour. Indeed he had been long taken notice of by most of the parishioners, on account of his melodious voice, which charmed all who heard him;

him ; nor was he less attentive to the instructions of the minister, which he did not suffer to slip out of his memory, but daily reduced them to practice in the sincerest manner.

Mr. ADAMS, the curate of the parish, was one of those men that would do honour to a whole nation ; but, for all that, was left to little more than what may, with propriety, be called a starving. To all the goodness of heart that ever adorned a human character, he joined an universal acquaintance with literature, in every branch that could be attended with utility. He loved religion in its native purity ; but looked with abhorrence on every abuse of it, even under the most exalted characters among men. He was now about fifty years of age, and with a small curacy, that scarce afforded the common necessities of life, he supported an infirm wife and six children, whom he brought up in the principles of virtue and religion. This gentleman took notice of young Andrews, and having questioned him concerning his knowledge, was surprised to find that he was perfectly acquainted with every thing necessary to be known by a christian ; and that he had read over Baker's Chronicle, which lay on the table of the hall. The poor curate, who had not interest or assurance to solicit any favour for himself, resolved to do something for young Andrews ; and, for that purpose, took an opportunity one day of speaking to Mrs. Slipslop the lady's waiting maid, desiring her to intercede with Sir Thomas to suffer the young lad to be put under his tuition to learn Latin. This favour, however, was not granted, and in a few

days afterwards the family set out for London ; but not till Joseph had, with tears of gratitude, thanked the worthy curate for interesting himself so much in his favour.

As Joseph had been brought up in the country, consequently he had never seen the London fashions ; and therefore, upon his arrival, he had his hair cut, and was dressed out in the highest taste of a footman : but for all that his morals remained uncorrupted, nor could any thing induce him to spend the evenings at ale-houses along with the other servants, a practice that is often attended with very fatal consequences.

His lady, who was a woman of fashion, and had been brought up in the highest sphere of polite life, could not help taking notice of him ; and indulged him in such innocent freedoms as are consistent with common decorum, though no great ornament to female characters. The death of Sir Thomas, who was seized with an apoplectic fit, put all the family into mourning ; and her ladyship, who was madly enamoured of Joseph, actually put it into his power to have debauched her, but the purity of his morals prevented the commission of the crime.

The lady enraged to see all her advances slighted by Joseph, ordered him out of her presence ; and at the bottom of the stairs he met Mrs. Slipshod the waiting-maid, who invited him to her closet, and there discovered a passion to him similar to that of his lady. She told him, that she doubted not but he was in love with her, and at the same time gave him encouragement to expect success ; but he was, by a large share of prudence, fortified

tified against all her machinations, at which she flew into the most violent rage, and went to her lady, whom she informed that Joseph was a wicked youth, and that none of the servant-maids could live in peace or safety, while he was in the house.

Accordingly he was once more called up into his lady's apartment, who received him sitting up in her bed, and threw such a temptation in his way, as nothing but the purest and most untainted virtue could resist; but finding every thing ineffectual, she charged him with having seduced one of the girls, and that she was then with child by him. As he knew his own innocence, he declared he had never proceeded farther than a kiss, and he hoped that was no crime.

Fired beyond the bounds of reason by the violence of her passion, she asked him, Whether, supposing he was allowed to kiss her, he would not proceed to greater familiarities? To this Joseph answered, That he was sure her ladyship would never demean herself so far as to suffer him to kiss her; adding, that he had more regard for her honour, and his own duty, than ever to attempt any thing of such a nature. This reply put her out of all patience; she burst into a flood of tears, and ordered Joseph to be gone; telling him, that he should that day be paid his wages, and sent about his business.

Mrs. Slipshod was again summoned into her lady's chamber, where a smart dialogue ensued, concerning the propriety of turning poor Joseph away. The waiting-maid was sorry that she had accused him, and pleaded for him in the most strenuous manner. This so fired the lady's indignation,

dignation, that she gave vent to her passion in the most ungovernable manner; while the waiting-woman did not scruple to tell her, that she knew more than she was willing to mention, and that some people were extremely wise with their ears, but not so in their actions, on which they laid no restraint.

The lady, who had never imagined that her waiting-woman would speak to her in such a manner, bid her begone; and at the same time told her to look for a new place, as she was determined that no such saucy hussy should remain any longer in her family. The waiting-maid, not in the least intimidated, told her lady there were more places than one, and that servants had a right to speak as well as mistresses. Nay, she even went so far as to insinuate, that she had it in her power to blast her reputation; and bounding out of the room, flapped the door after her with the utmost disdain.

It is the misfortune of many of our ladies of quality, that they make their upper servants too much acquainted with secrets that cannot, when divulged, redound to their honour; so that no sooner is Mrs. Abigail discharged, than she publishes her lady's shame, and makes her an object of ridicule. This Lady Booby was sensible of; and therefore sending for Mrs. Sliplop, chided her gently for being too free with her tongue, and then making her a present of a gown and petticoat, told her she might still remain in her place.

The waiting-maid, who was about forty-five years of age, knew that a place in possession was worth two in expectation, prudently embraced
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the offer ; and as her taste was not the most refined, she gave up all thoughts of Joseph, well knowing that, according to her vulgar apprehensions, one young fellow was as good as another, and that she might possibly be able to captivate the heart of another, if not by her decayed charms, at least by what money she had saved in her place.

In the mean time Joseph was ordered to wait on Mr. Peter Pounce the steward, who paid him the small matter of wages that were due to him ; and having ordered him to strip off his livery, told him, that he must not remain one moment longer in the house than he had packed up his linen. To all this Joseph submitted, and, as he was well esteemed by the rest of the servants, one gave him a frock, another a waistcoat, and a third a pair of breeches. Thus equipped, he took an affectionate leave of his fellow-servants, and set out about seven in the evening, without knowing where to steer his course ; but the moon shining clear, he resolved to go into the country, for reasons that will be explained hereafter.

Love, that all-powerful and prevailing motive with youth, and sometimes with persons in more advanced years, induced Joseph to undertake the journey. A young girl, who then lived with a farmer in the country, had attracted his notice before he set out for London, and he being deeply enamoured of her, resolved to see her. Mr. Adams, the curate, was no stranger to their mutual passion ; but that most excellent man, ever attentive to the happiness of youth, advised them not to be too rash, but to wait with patience, till, by honest industry, each had saved a little money,

so as to be able to settle in the world in a reputable manner. The two young persons, who considered every word that dropped from the mouth of the good man as something more than human, resolved to abide by his advice; and, to their honour, it must be acknowledged that they did so, as far as is consistent with the state of human nature. They had now been absent about a year, and not a letter had passed between them; but that was owing to an unavoidable misfortune, for poor Fanny, the young girl who was the object of Joseph's love, could neither read nor write.

Joseph had not proceeded far on his journey when he was overtaken by a violent storm, which obliged him to take shelter in an inn, where he remembered Sir Thomas stopped on his journey to London. He had not been long there when a gentleman's servant, driven in by the storm with two horses, having put them up in the stable, came and sat down in the kitchen. This circumstance Joseph considered as extremely favourable, for the footman being obliged to go about twenty miles farther on the same road, generously offered to give him the use of one of the horses. Accordingly, the storm having subsided, both set out together, and about two in the morning arrived at the inn where the horses were to be left; and Joseph, having treated the footman with a pint of wine, proceeded on his journey, notwithstanding the most earnest entreaties to the contrary.

He had not proceeded above two miles when he was met by two fellows in a dark narrow lane, who commanded him to stop and deliver his

his money. These menaces were delivered in too peremptory a tone for Joseph to make any hesitation, and therefore, putting his hand in his pocket, he gave them all he had, which did not amount to forty shillings.—But who can dispute with highwaymen?

Joseph, in the most humble and submissive manner, begged they would return him a few shillings, in order to defray his expences on the road; but so far were they from complying with his request, that they set upon him in the most unmerciful manner, and having beaten him with their cudgels till they thought he was dead, they stripped him naked, and threw him into a ditch. In that most wretched condition he remained some time, till a stage coach coming up, the postillion called out that *he heard the groans of a dead man*. For some time the coachman refused to take him in, till a gentleman of the law, who happened to be a passenger, insisted that he should be taken in, lest, as they had looked at him, the jury should find that they had fled for it. When he approached the coach he saw a lady in it, and so great was his modesty, that he refused to go into it, till the postillion would give him the use of his great coat to cover his nakedness. The rest of the passengers had refused him that favour; but no sooner did the poor postillion see his distress than he stripped off his coat, and gave it him, declaring that, rather than he should starve, he would ride in his shirt.

Joseph being helped into the coach, they proceeded on their journey, but were soon after met by the same villains who had robbed him, and stripped of all their money; although the lawyer

declared that no man had ever attempted to rob him without being severely punished for his insolence.

On their arrival at the inn, Joseph was put to bed, and the servant maid went to call up a surgeon, who lived in the same neighbourhood; but no sooner had he learned that the patient whom he was to attend, was only a poor naked wounded man, than he shut the door and went to bed. The innkeeper's wife, who was then in bed, no sooner learned in what manner Joseph had been treated by Betty the chamber maid, than she got up in a most violent hurry, and called her by all the abusive names she could possibly express. This however, did not alienate Betty's affections from Joseph, for altho' her mistress denied to give him a shirt, yet the poor girl went and borrowed one from the hostler. From this we may learn, that humanity and compassion for our fellow creatures in distress, is often to be met with in the lowest stations, and that real virtue is too often mentioned as an appendage to the characters of those who have no right to it.

When breakfast was over the surgeon arrived, and having examined Joseph's wounds, declared them mortal, and desired that the parson of the parish might be sent for, in order to give him ghostly consolation. The parson, whose name was Barnabas, entered into a long detail of the crimes that Joseph must have committed, and desired him to make an open disclosure of them, as the only means that could be used in order to obtain mercy from god; Joseph told him, that he knew not of any great crimes he had committed,

mitted, and as for smaller faults, he repented of them in the sincerest manner, which satisfied the parson; only that he desired to know whether he would forgive the villains who had robbed him. Joseph told him, that he was very willing to forgive them; but if he should happen to meet with them, he would endeavour to bring them to justice. This the parson acknowledged to be right; and after a long intricate discourse concerning confession and the forgiveness of sins, he told him, that he was sure of the divine favour, and might prepare to die as soon as possible, for no time was to be lost.

Poor Joseph was now left by the parson and the surgeon, and the landlady having denied him a basin of tea, the servant maid made him some, and then he gave himself up to the most melancholy reflections. Life was but a secondary consideration with respect to himself; but when he considered that by death, he would for ever be deprived of the sight of his dear Fanny; all his passions were collected together, and his grief became in a manner unsurmountable. Towards the dusk of the evening, a grave looking man well advanced in years, came into the kitchen, and as he was a stranger to every one present, he sat down in the corner, and lighted his pipe; but hearing that the young man had been used in a barbarous manner by robbers, he asked the surgeon who was sitting drinking with the landlady whether his wounds were mortal? The surgeon, who was a poor mean self-conceited fellow, made himself extremely merry at the expence of the stranger, who answered in the most modest manner, and at last desired to see
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the dying man ; but how great was the mutual surprise, when he discovered that the wounded person was Joseph Andrews, and for the other to recognize the countenance of the pious Mr. Abraham Adams. In the mean time one of the thieves was taken and brought to the inn, in consequence of which a vast concourse of people assembled together ; and while they were in the kitchen, some others came in with the cloaths, of which Joseph Andrews had been stripped. As some things were found upon the robber that had been taken from Joseph, he was ordered to be detained in custody till next morning, that he might be taken before a justice and dealt with according to law. Betty told her mistress, that she was sure the stranger who had been wounded was a gentleman, for besides the whiteness of his skin, he had recovered a piece of gold from the robber ; upon which the landlady who had no other views beyond those of self interest, declared, that she would never use a gentleman in an improper manner, while she thought he had money in his pocket ; and that if Betty could assure her that he had money, nothing in the house should be wanting for his accommodation.

The surgeon and Barnabas the parson, who were still in the kitchen, went up to visit Joseph, and found Mr. Adams sitting along with him in the most friendly manner ; but they could not persuade Joseph to part with the piece of gold that had been taken from him by the robbers, because it was a token of love given to him by his charmer. Some disputes arose between the two learned gentlemen, concerning the nature of their knowledge

knowledge relating to evidence; but as neither of them understood what they were talking about, the surgeon gave it up, and went to dress Joseph's head. Having examined the wounds, he pronounced that he might yet recover, and as that was an intimation to the parson to discontinue his visits, the surgeon took his leave, telling the landlord, that he would send something in the morning that would be of the utmost service to him.

His departure was extremely agreeable to Joseph, who was thereby enabled to tell his mind to Mr. Adams, from whom he learned that that worthy gentleman was on a journey to London, in order to dispose of some manuscript sermons for the benefit of his family, who were in great distress; but as he had about nine shillings in his pocket, it was at his service.

Such goodness in Mr. Adams brought tears of joy from the poor afflicted Joseph, who eat part of a fowl for his supper; and the landlady who now began to look upon him as really a gentleman, gave him one of her husband's shirts. Next morning the surgeon, and Mr. Barnabas, the parson, came to visit the patient, and to attend the robbers, being carried before a justice, for both were extremely zealous in bringing him to punishment; the one that he might have an opportunity of converting him, and the other that he might be allowed to dissect and anatomize his body. But all their hopes were disappointed, for the company having retired to rest, and the constable being afraid that the robber would knock out his brains, went out of the room where he was confined, and suffered him to make
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his escape. Indeed the robber was not over nice, for having often been before justices, he thought it much more prudent to decamp in a silent manner, than put them to any further trouble in making out a commitment, which, although it might have brought a shilling to the clerk, could not have been of any service to him besides that of procuring him a halter.

While the whole family were in an uproar on account of the escape of the thief; the bell rung for some of the waiters to attend in Joseph's room, and the landlord not doubting but he was a gentleman went up, and found him in conversation with the good man Mr. Abraham Adams. Indeed the subject matter of the conversation was neither less nor more than how to raise a little money. Mr. Adams in his generosity to Joseph, had reduced himself to a few shilling, so that he wanted a fresh supply, but no sooner had he told the landlord, that he wanted to borrow three guineas on a volume of sermons in manuscript, than the publican told him, that he did not understand these matters, and that he had no money in the house. This was a most mortifying stroke to poor Mr. Adams, but as he was never disconcerted in consequence of any disappointments, he went down to the kitchen where he lighted his pipe, and smoked without the least emotion, not paying any regard to the occurrences of human life, any further than as the indispensable works of divine providence, to which every one ought to submit.

While he was sitting in this solitary manner, a coach came up to the door of the inn, and two honourable gentlemen as they were called, entered

tered and went into a separate apartment, while their footman, one of whom knew parson Adams, came into the kitchen and pulled off his hat to him. The parson and the surgeon were still in the kitchen, but they being men of consequence, the great persons who arrived desired to speak with them, and they were introduced into their company in the most formal manner.

The footman, who knew Mr. Abraham Adams, happening to come in at that instant to attend his master, told him, that there was a worthy gentleman in the kitchen, who was curate of a parish, and an ornament to his profession. To hear of a clergyman sitting by himself in so solitary a manner, in the kitchen of a public inn, striked the curiosity of the guests, and he was immediately ordered into the presence chamber, where a long dialogue ensued, between parson Adams and Barnabas, concerning the hardships that the inferior clergy were reduced to.

Parson Barnabas told parson Adams, that he had once offered a volume of sermons in manuscript to a bookseller, but he told him that he would rather purchase a play. Poor Adams was so much disconcerted, that he knew not what to say, and began to loose hopes of the sale of his sermons. In the mean time Joseph, whose constitution surmounted all the injuries he had received, recovered so fast, that next day he was able to eat a piece of a neck of mutton and drink some broth. It was then proposed, that Mr. Adams should set out on foot for London, and leave Joseph to pursue his journey in the coach as soon as he was perfectly recovered; but while they were talking of these matters, a person
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came into the yard of the inn, and was ushered into a room. This person was no other than a London bookseller, who had been riding for orders in the country, and Adams being introduced to him, proposed to sell him his manuscript sermons; but he was of the same mind with his brother Barnabas, who told him that plays, or some of the compositions of George Whitfield, would bring much more money, and be far more agreeable to the public.

In the mean time an incident happened, or rather a discovery was made, which obliged Mr. Adams to return to his own home. Joseph, who had heard that the parson had no less than nine volumes of manuscript sermons in his saddlebags, began to imagine that there must be some mistake, and therefore, in order to satisfy his curiosity, examined the contents; but could find nothing besides some linen and stockings: for Mr. Adams had left the filling up of his bags to his wife, who imagined that her husband had much more need of shirts than sermons. This was a most mortifying stroke; but it had no effect on poor Adams, who, with the most philosophic indifference, declared his resolution of returning home with Joseph, and in order to defray his expences, borrowed a guinea from the coachman of a nobleman who lived in his parish, and happened accidentally to call at the inn. Accordingly they set out together, it being agreed that the one should ride and the other walk alternately, so as to render the journey the more agreeable; for so humble was Mr. Adams, that he looked on all his fellow-creatures in the same light with himself.

Parson.

Parson Adams set out on foot, leaving Joseph to follow him on horseback, and actually saw him mount the horse; but no sooner was Mr. Adams gone, than the landlord came and demanded twelve shillings for the maintenance of the horse, which Mr. Adams had forgotten to pay, merely from an absence of memory. As Joseph had but six-pence in his pocket, he could not pay the money, and it is probable the landlord, as well as the landlady, would have trusted him, had he not happened to pull out the piece of gold already mentioned. The landlady declared that she could not see what right any person had to travel with gold in his pocket, and at the same time not be able to pay his reckoning. The consequence was, that Joseph was obliged to dismount, and remain at the inn in hopes of better fortune.

In the mean time Mr. Adams continued his journey; but not seeing any appearance of Joseph, went into a country alehouse, and sat down to dry his cloaths, which were extremely wet. He called for a pint of ale and a pipe, and having smoked a few minutes, two horsemen came into the room, and began to talk of the disaster that had befallen Joseph; doubting whether he could not bring an action against the landlord for detaining the horse.

Adams, notwithstanding that natural absence of memory to which he had long been subject, yet recollected that the horse had not been paid for; and in consequence of its not being his own, but one he had borrowed from his clerk, he resolved to set out for the inn and relieve Joseph; but he still forgot that he had no money
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in his pocket. But as the rain continued extremely violent, he resolved to remain a little longer, and during that time a curious dialogue ensued between him and the landlord. Mr. Adams, who had the most elevated notions of religion, rebuked the landlord for some expressions he made use of, and examined him concerning his belief of divine revelation ; but all the answers he could get were only a few incoherent expressions, that served to convince the parson, that he was as ignorant as the vulgar in general are. As to the doctrine of a future state, he professed to believe it ; but when Mr. Adams asked him, what reason he had to support his belief, he could not answer one word. Such in general is the case with too many people, who, under the name of christians, are actually unacquainted with its first principles.

While they were discoursing in this manner, a stage-coach drove up to the door, and Mr. Adams going out to take a view of the passengers, was recognized by Mrs. Slipslop, his old acquaintance. That lady, who was no stranger to the character and merits of Mr. Adams, told him in what condition she had met Joseph Andrews at the inn, and how she had redeemed the horse, in order that he might proceed on his journey. The mutual congratulations were scarce over, when Joseph, who had followed the coach, came up, and told the parson that he was very able to walk on foot the remainder of the journey ; at the same time insisting that Mr. Abraham Adams should take the horse. This the parson would have complied with, upon condition that Joseph could have been admitted into the

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the coach ; but a female present declared that she would never ride in the same carriage with a servant in livery. At last it was agreed upon, that Parson Adams should ride in the coach, and Joseph, who was willing to submit to any thing, continued his journey on horseback ; while the company in the coach proceeded, conversing together on various subjects, in the most familiar manner.

In this manner they continued conversing together, till they came opposite a large house that stood within sight of the road ; and some of the company being eager to know who resided in it, a gentlewoman, who seemed to be endowed with no small share of politeness, promised to gratify their curiosity.

She told them that the lonely mansion, that had attracted their attention, was inhabited by the unfortunate Leonora, who had fallen a sacrifice to vanity, in consequence of an improper use of female charms. She said, that the unfortunate lady was the daughter of a gentleman of very high rank, who had given her an education suitable to any station whatever in the polite world ; and that, while very young, she had acquired a great number of admirers. Among these was Horatio, a young gentleman who had been bred up to the law, and who, in many respects, was esteemed and admired by all who knew him ; for he had not only a perfect knowledge of every thing relating to his own profession, but his figure was graceful, and his whole conduct so amiable and engaging, that few females could see him without admiring him.

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He had first met with Leonora in one of the places of public entertainment, and became deeply enamoured of her charms. She was not, on her part, insensible; but gave him all the encouragement he could expect, and at last the whole preliminaries for a marriage were agreed on. The day was fixed for the happy couple to enjoy each other, when an event took place that disconcerted all their hopes of felicity.

Leonora lived in the county town, where the assizes were held, and Horatio having some business there, went and dispatched it with honour and integrity. Having taken farewell of his charmer, he set out for London; and the same evening, while Leonora was standing at her window, a carriage came equipt, with footmen before, in the most elegant manner; which attracted her attention so much, that she could not help making enquiry to whom it belonged, for she had all that vanity peculiar to her sex. The same evening there happened to be a ball, and as the strange gentleman was to be there, Leonora took that opportunity of seeing him. He made his appearance in a rich dress, for he was but lately arrived from Paris, that seat of dissipation; and no sooner had he seen Leonora, than he singled her out for a partner.

Belarmine, for that was the name of the strange gentleman, soon made an absolute conquest of Leonora's heart, although her hand had been promised to another. It is true, she had still some scruples remaining in her mind; but having communicated them to a female relation, she was given to understand that they were only of a trifling nature, and that she might give her
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hand to the gay Belarmine, notwithstanding the promises she had made to Horatio.

News of these transactions having been transmitted to Horatio, he hastened to the place, and meeting with Belarmine, challenged him; in consequence of which a duel ensued, and the latter was run through the body. This was a most mortifying blow for Leonora, who now imagined, that out of two lovers she had none left; for as the one was killed, the other would be obliged to abscond. She communicated her fears to her aunt, who, instead of sympathizing with her, only rallied her on her unnecessary fears; and before she had done speaking, a servant from Belarmine came into the room, and brought a letter from his master to Leonora, informing her, that although he had been wounded, yet his life was not in danger.

The concluding part of this very interesting narrative, was interrupted in consequence of the coach stopping at an inn, the landlady of which went to dress Joseph's leg; but her husband, who was a brute in human shape, seeing her so employed, called her by the most opprobrious names, and at the same time threatened to turn Joseph out of doors. This so aggravated Parson Adams, that he gave the landlord a blow on the head, which laid him sprawling on the floor; and his wife, who was a much better woman than he deserved, imagining her husband to be dead, laid hold of a pan full of hog's blood, and threw the whole contents over Parson Adams. In the mean time Mrs. Slipflop, who was in an adjoining room, happened to come in, and seeing the condition in which Joseph and the parson

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son were, flew like a fury at the head of the landlady, and tore her hair up by the roots. The landlord, who had now got upon his feet, began to curse and damn his wife for having spilt the blood, with which they intended to have made some hogs puddings ; while Mr. Abraham Adams declared that he had no intention of giving any offence, and that he had only stretched out his hand to chastise the host for his insolence to his poor friend, who was then in distress.

At last every thing being adjusted to the mutual satisfaction of all parties present, the coach proceeded on its way, and the gentlewoman continued the story of Leonora in the same manner as before, and in the following terms.

Leonora had no sooner learned that there were hopes of her lover's recovery, than she flew to the house where he lay, and it must be confessed that her attendance upon him was more regular than that of his surgeon. She nursed him with the utmost care and assiduity, so that the ladies who were acquainted with her, began to call her reputation in question. In about a month after receiving the wound, Belarmine was perfectly recovered, and in consequence of a promise made for that purpose, he set out to visit the father of Leonora, in order to obtain his consent for the nuptials.

The old gentleman was one of those mortals who look upon their children as incumbrances to their estates, and are willing to part with them on any account whatever. Destitute of bowels of compassion, he did not care if the whole human race had perished, upon condition

that he could procure any of that money which levels all distinctions.

The elegant figure that Belarmine made, prejudiced the old gentleman in his favour; but no sooner had he learned that he courted his daughter merely for her fortune, than he turned away in a huff; and Belarmine, having written a letter to Leonora, set out for his beloved Paris, to spend the remainder of his money, and return to England, like many of his countrymen, a real beggar.

Leonora received this letter with all those emotions peculiar to women, and not being able to overcome her resentment, nor gratify her desires, retired to the country, where she ever after lived in the most disconsolate manner. Some people were inclined to pity her; but those endowed with more sensibility, insisted that she had no right to expect any favour, as she had been so base to Horatio, who loved her even to distraction. It was intimated further, that the poor barrister never heard her name mentioned without fetching a deep sigh; but he looked upon it as inconsistent with his character as a gentleman, to make any approaches to a woman who could, with so much levity, trample on the most sacred obligations that are the bonds of society.

The lady concluded her story to the approbation of all present, and then the coach proceeded without any thing material happening till towards evening, when Mr. Abraham Adams, having left his horse behind him at the inn, heard a female voice scream out as in the utmost state of distress. As compassion for those in distress was the principal characteristic by which Mr.

Adams was distinguished, he snatched a gun out of the hand of a gentleman whom he had accidentally met on the road, and ran to the scene of action, in order, if possible, to save the life of a fellow-creature.

No sooner had Mr. Adams arrived at the place, than he found a ruffian attempting to ravish a young woman, and had actually almost overpowered her; but the clergyman, who knew how to exercise his hands as well as his tongue, gave him a severe drubbing, and obliged him to desist. Indeed he thought he had killed the intended ravisher, and therefore had some thoughts of surrendering himself into the hands of justice; but an accident happened, as will be seen afterwards, by which a very different occurrence took place, which will we hope give pleasure to the reader.

While Mr. Adams was ruminating on these things, some young fellows came up with a lanthorn, and holding it to the person's face who had been wounded, or rather stunned by the blow, found him so well, that he started up, and declared that both Mr. Adams and the woman should be carried before a justice of the peace; for, according to his account, they had first robbed him, and then attempted to murder him. Accordingly the hands of poor Mr. Adams were tied behind his back, and the countenance of the poor girl, whom he had rescued, was so much agitated, that she looked like one, who, in the opinion of wanton cruelty, might from a variety of circumstances be considered as guilty.

In their way towards the justice's, a violent dispute arose between the parties, in what manner
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the reward should be shared ; and one of the persons who had been the most active, being an attorney's clerk, declared, that he would be by law intitled to more than any of the rest, because he had searched the prisoners. This offended all the rest of the parties concerned, who looked upon themselves as equally intitled to a share, and nothing but scolding took place among them, till they arrived at the chamber of audience.

The Justice, before whom Mr. Adams and the young woman were taken, was one of those brutes in human shape who are raised to dignity in consequence of bearing the king's commission, and to whom may be applied the following words of the poet :

*Pretty, in amber, to observe the forms
Of hairs, of straws, of dirt, of grubs and worms :
The things we know are neither rich nor rare,
But wonder how the devil they came there.*

Indeed, the brutal behaviour of the Justice was such as perhaps is too common, but ought to be reprobated by all those who are real friends to society. The clerk, an ignorant puppy, spewed out scraps of ungrammatical Latin, with such impropriety that Mr. Adams's indignation was raised to the utmost, and he could not refrain from speaking of him with the utmost contempt. In the pocket of Mr. Adams, besides a penknife, was found a copy of Eschylus, the famous Greek tragedian, which, as the poor parson could not afford to purchase one, he had taken down in manuscript ; and this was produced as evidence against him, under pretence that he was a spy, and that this was a book of characters.

Poor Mr. Adams made several attempts to speak in vindication of his innocence, but the brute of a Justice refused to hear him, till a gentleman who happened to be present stood up, and declared that he knew Mr. Adams, and that he was a very worthy clergyman; that the charge against him must be groundless; and that he was willing to give bail for any charge that should be exhibited against him.

The Justice now began to perceive his mistake, and insisted that the persons who had sworn against parson Adams and the young woman were both perjured, and ordered them into custody; but neither of them could be found, nor was Mr. Adams anxious of carrying on any prosecution against them, being fully convinced of his own innocence, and satisfied that he had been discharged.

Every thing being settled in an amicable manner, Mr. Adams and the girl set out together on their journey, but had not proceeded far when they were overtaken by a most violent storm, which obliged them to take refuge in an inn, where they sat down by the fire, the parson to smook his pipe, and Fanny to dry her cloaths, for she was wet through, even to the skin. There they had not been long when the landlady took notice of Fanny, and wondered how such a beautiful young creature could trust herself with a man. While they were sitting by the fire, parson Adams continued looking at his Greek manuscript, regardless of a voice in the next room, which, in the most melodious manner, sung a song on the delights of love; but Fanny was not so insensible, for being well acquainted
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with the accents, she screamed out, and fell backwards in a fit.

This awakened the attention of the parson, who no sooner heard her scream out than he ran to call for assistance; but how great was his surprise, when, among others who came to attend the young woman, were Joseph Andrews and Mrs. Slipslop! Fanny, after some difficulty, was restored to the use of her reason, and finding herself in the arms of her beloved Joseph, pushed him from her in the most gentle manner, while Mrs. Slipslop, fired with jealousy, went into another room, muttering that she wondered who the creature was that could give herself such saucy airs, and pretend to be in fits before company, while every one present were her betters.

Soon after this, the coachman came to inform Mrs. Slipslop that the storm was over, and that, as the moon shone clear, it would be necessary for them to proceed on their journey. Joseph was then summoned to attend her, but he absolutely refused to go into the vehicle, unless Fanny was permitted to take a place along with him. This Mrs. Slipslop as absolutely refused to grant, declaring that no such vulgar saucy trollops should ride with her, and that, as soon as she arrived at the mansion-house, she would take care that she should be either sent to the house of correction, or passed to her proper settlement. She wondered how such fellows as Joseph should appoint his trulls to meet him on the road, and still more that he should have the impudence to attempt to impose her on people of fashion as a girl who was really virtuous. Having uttered these words, and tossed up her head two or three

times with airs of great importance, she looked on parson Adams with the utmost contempt, and then flouncing out of the room, ordered the coachman to drive on with all speed, that she might be at home as soon as lady Booby.

As soon as this woman of importance was gone, parson Adams, with Joseph and Fanny, went to regale themselves by the fire; and the good parson falling asleep, the two lovers were left at liberty to indulge themselves in mutual embraces. In a word their passions were now wound up to the highest pitch, and nothing would serve but matrimony; for which purpose parson Adams was called up, in order to join their hands: but no sooner had he learned what were their intentions, than he absolutely refused to have any thing to do with it, insisting that they ought to wait till a proper opportunity, and be married according to the rules of the church. The parson was seconded in his arguments by Fanny, who declared, that she would do nothing contrary to the will of Mr. Adams, whom she looked upon as a spiritual father. It was however, with much difficulty that Joseph could be brought to hearken to the voice of reason; but Mr. Adams convinced him, that nothing was more inconsistent with his interest than that of rashly entering upon engagements in their own nature sacred, and such as if not attended to in a proper manner would be the ruin of both.

Morning being now arrived, our travellers proposed setting out on their journey; but there was one thing to settle, namely, the payment of the reckoning, which amounted to seven shillings, sixpence halfpenny only of which was in
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the pocket of Mr. Adams, who imagining that all men were like himself, told the company he would soon put an end to all their difficulties, and for that purpose called in the landlady, who immediately made her appearance.

Mr. Adams asked her, if there was a parson in the parish, and being answered in the affirmative, asked if he was rich, to which he received the same answer. He then set out to visit the parson, not doubting but he would give him as much money as would defray his expences, and enable him to pursue his journey. The clergyman, to whom he intended to address himself, was one Mr. Trulliber, a noted man in his way; for he preached on Sundays, and fed hogs during the rest of the week. He was a mean beggarly fellow, whose notions were as low as the hogs he fed, and who never considered merit in any other light than as it was connected with money.

Upon parson Adams's arrival at the house of the curate, he was considered as one who came to purchase hogs; and Mr. Trulliber full of that notion, took him into the hog-stye, where his brethren were confined; but O reader! who would have thought, one of the hogs by a dextrous stroke of his heels, knocked poor parson Adams into the mud. Trulliber, who laughed heartily at his misfortune, took him into the kitchen, and both breakfasted together; after which, Mr. Adams, proposed that parson Trulliber should give him as much money as would pay his reckoning. This was such a stroke to parson Trulliber, that he exclaimed aloud, that he certainly intended to rob him; upon which a long altercation ensued between them, but in the

end poor Adams was obliged to retire, and visit with a heavy heart his friends at the inn, whom he made acquainted with his bad success; but the landlady, who had believed that Mr. Trulliber and he were brothers, agreed to give them credit. This however proved a most unlucky circumstance, for parson Adams having left his great coat at parson Trulliber's, after he had been tumbled about in the hog-stye, desired the landlady to go and fetch it. This she readily complied with in the most complaisant manner; but alas! she had no sooner told parson Trulliber that his brother had sent for his coat, than the hog-feeding clergyman called poor Adams a vile impostor, and wondered how he could presume to take upon him to pretend to be his relation. Here the woman, who was a mean vulgar creature, burst into a most violent rage, and taking to her heels, run home with the utmost expedition, where she met her three guests, and told them, she wondered how any people should be so wicked as to go about the country imposing on the honest and industrious, while they knew that they had not a penny in their pockets. She concluded by telling them, that they should not go till they had paid their reckoning, for she had a sum of money to make up, and she would not trust even her own father. Poor Adams was so much perplexed that he knew not what to do, but chance or rather providence opened a way for his delivery, by means that he could not consistent with reason have expected.

A poor pedlar, who had been a drummer in an Irish regiment, happened to be then in the house, and seeing three persons in such distress, called
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Mr. Adams aside, and asked him how much was the sum for which they were detained? Adams told him, that it was no more than seven shillings, upon which the pedlar shed tears and said he was sorry, for he had no more money about him than six shillings and six-pence, which should have been at his service if it could have answered the end. Parson Adams recollecting that he had six-pence in his pocket, jumped about like a madman, and having given the humane compassionate Irishman directions where to call on him for payment, went and discharged the reckoning, declaring that he would never any more call at that house. On the other hand, the landlady was not much behind him, for she gave him to understand, that she would rather shut up house than keep it open for the entertainment of such as in her opinion were no better than vagrants.

They had only proceeded a few miles on their journey, when they were again overtaken by a shower, and coming up to the door of an ale-house, saw a gentleman smoking his pipe, who invited parson Adams with his two companions into the kitchen, and told them to regale themselves on bread and cheese, promising at the same time to make the parson a present of the living of the parish, which amounted to three hundred pounds a year. Poor Adams was struck with such an instance of generosity in one with whom he had no connections, nor to whom he was under any obligations, and therefore he began in a manner to forget his poverty. The gentleman told him, that horses should be at his service in the morning, to convey him and his com-

panions home, but was sorry that he could not accomodate him with a lodging in his house, as his house-keeper had gone out and taken the key of all the apartments along with her, nor could any one say how soon she would return ; so that for that night our travellers were desired to repose themselves at the inn.

When the morning arrived, parson Adams awakened Joseph, and a most violent dispute arose between them concerning the manner in which they should ride on the squire's horses ; but Joseph, who was much better conversant in these things than the parson, told Mr. Adams not to give himself any trouble, as the horses would never come. " He is a gentlemen (said he) who made this promise, and I can assure you, that the more gentlemen promise, the less they perform. I have seen enough of these things while I lived in London, and nothing was more common than to hear our footmen deny their masters, although they were then sitting at breakfast."

" I wish (said Adams) I had borrowed some money of the gentleman last night ; but then I did not chuse to intrude on his good nature." " You might have asked him (said Joseph) but I am sure you would not have got any, for take my word for it, while his house-keeper is mistress of the keys of the different apartments, the steward has the same privilege over the money, so that all we have to do now is only to get out of this unlucky scrape."

A boy was dispatched to the house of this great man, who brought for answer, that he was not at home, but that he was gone out on a long journey,

journey, and would not be at home for a month. Poor Adams, who, with all his learning, was an utter stranger to human nature in its public operations, asked the landlord whether he would trust him, and, to his great surprise, was answered in the affirmative, because he had a great regard for the clergy. Indeed the landlord was so complaisant, that he invited Mr. Adams to drink another mug of ale; during which time the two lovers went out into the garden, to talk of such subjects as are not so very agreeable to those in advanced years. It seems the landlord was one who had been some years at sea, and as Mr. Adams knew nothing of geography but what he had learned from books, a violent dispute took place, which in the end might have been attended with a broken head or a bloody nose, had not Joseph and Fanny returned, and insisted on the parson going along with them on their journey; which, after some words, he readily complied with, and then they left the inn.

It was so late in the evening when our travellers set out from the inn, or rather alehouse, that they were soon overtaken by darkness, and Fanny was so tired that she whispered Joseph to beg of Parson Adams to let them rest a little. This the parson readily complied with, and they all sat down together on a bank adjoining to the road; but they had not been there long when they espied a light at some distance, and as it continued moving, they heard some men saying that they would kill the first person they met with.

Adams was terribly frightened, and Fanny held fast by Joseph, declaring that if he was killed,

she would die along with him. But as no time was to be lost, the parson grasped his large crab-stick, while Joseph resolving to sell his life as dear as possible, pulled out his knife, and both advanced to meet their enemies. They were, however, soon relieved from their fears, for the light disappeared, and our travellers embraced that opportunity of making their escape; nor did they look behind them till they had got to the distance of two miles, when they found themselves on the declivity of a hill.

There they looked around them, and saw the number of lights increased; upon which Mr. Adams, who with all his learning had not divested himself of superstition, concluded that the lights were apparitions, and therefore he recommended himself to the protection of heaven. Scarce had he finished his ejaculations, when, missing his step, he tumbled down the hill, and rolled to the bottom; Joseph and Fanny, who had no inclination to follow him in the same circular motion, laid hold of each other, and walked to the bottom without missing a step; a circumstance that youth in general ought to imitate, with respect to their conduct in life. When they had rejoined the parson, they found themselves on the banks of a river, and Mr. Adams proposed that they should immediately swim across; but as Fanny could not swim, Joseph proposed that they should walk a little farther along the banks, when in all probability they would find a bridge. Accordingly having passed over several meadows, they came to a small orchard, near which they discovered a house; and Fanny, who was quite fatigued, and scarce able to

to stand, desired that Joseph would knock at the door, she being extremely willing to get a little rest.

Mr. Adams no sooner heard Fanny's request to Joseph, than, marching up to the door, he knocked, and told a decent well-looking man who opened it, that there was a young woman, much fatigued, who wanted only to rest herself about an hour. The gentleman answered, that his house was open for the reception of strangers in distress, and therefore, in the most humane manner, invited them to come in. Every thing that the house could afford was set before them. The landlady of the house was a civil well-bred woman, and seeing Fanny in a manner overpowered with fatigue, desired her to repose herself; but scarce had Parson Adams lighted his pipe, when he asked the landlord whether the place where they lived was not haunted by spirits. The landlord had not time to answer before he was called to the door, and after staying a few minutes, returned, laughing heartily at the parson's simplicity; and telling him that the ghosts were no other than sheep-stealers, who had been making depredations on the cattle belonging to the farmers in the neighbourhood, two of them had been taken, and were then carrying before a justice; but for all that Parson Adams still believed in the doctrine of witchcraft.

The ragged cassock that hung down under the coat of Mr. Adams, and the familiarity between him and Joseph, induced the landlord of the house to consider his guests in no very favourable light; and therefore, in order to satisfy himself, he entered into a long conversation with the
parson,

parson, about the beauties of literature : but he soon found that Adams was no impostor, for he not only went over the Greek and Roman classics, but also repeated so many verses out of Homer, that the good woman of the house was almost frightened. It was then proposed that Fanny should go to bed along with the landlady, which she readily complied with ; for notwithstanding the violence of her passion for Joseph, yet rest seemed extremely agreeable. In the mean time the landlord could not help taking notice of the modest behaviour of Joseph, which, joined to his graceful appearance, seemed to render him an object of respect to all those who saw him. This brought the whole company, after the women were retired, to a state of the utmost good-humour ; and Parson Adams being desirous to know in what manner the stranger came to live in those parts, he gratified him in the following story.

He told them that he was a person brought up in the most indulgent manner by his parents, who were people of fortune and fashion. That he was sent to a grammar-school, where he learned the Latin and Greek languages ; but his father dying when he was only sixteen, and having left him a fortune to be enjoyed by him when he was twenty-one years of age, but not sooner, the young gentleman began to look upon himself as not treated in the manner he ought to have been.

This gentleman, whose name was Wilson, told Mr. Adams further, that his father had made a flaw in his will, and therefore an attorney advised him to bring an action against the trustees

or

or guardian; upon which he recovered the whole, long before he had arrived at such an age as to be able to manage it in a proper manner. This affair being settled, young Mr. Wilson set out for London, where he began to assume the character of a fine gentleman, or, in other words, to be one of those who spend their time in idleness, by sleeping during the whole of the day, and ruining their constitutions at night, by riot and all sorts of the vilest debauchery.

This, however, was such a dissipated course of life, that although he resolved to continue in it, yet it did not afford him any real pleasure. The repetition of vices in search of new scenes of happiness, palled upon the appetite; life itself became in a manner, a burden; while the powers of the intellectual faculties were drowned in wine and debauchery. One day, being at a coffee-house near St. James's, he happened to speak very freely with respect to the character of a girl of the town, which being overheard by an officer of the guards, Mr. Wilson found himself either obliged to engage in a duel, or to remove from all his former acquaintance. He embraced the latter, and took chambers in the Temple, where he had not been long, when he became acquainted with the beaux in that part of the town; who told him, that the only employment of a gentleman, consistent with polite life, was to attend the playhouses, and make a riot when a new play was acted. That when the play was over, the politest manner of spending the evening, was to retire to one of the bawdy-houses in Covent-Garden, where they would be sure to meet with girls suitable to their wishes, and not

to dream away their time idly in their chambers. As the passions of youth are soon inflamed, this advice was greedily relished by Mr. Wilson, and soon after he took into keeping a girl of the town, who had been recommended to him by a celebrated bawd ; but she had not been long in his chambers, when he discovered that she kept up an intercourse with another person, upon which he resolved to discard her, though not before he had been obliged to ask the advice of a surgeon.

He then took into keeping one who pretended to be the discarded daughter of a gentleman of fortune in the country ; but she, being no more than a common woman of the town, broke open his bureau, and stole from him, in cash and notes, no less than two hundred pounds. This made him for some time an enemy to the whole sex ; but his passions returning, he resolved, instead of having any further connections with common prostitutes, he would devote the remainder of his time to the seduction of married women. In this wicked resolution he was but too successful, and several women of quality, even of the first rank, were, by their own misconduct and the behaviour of Mr. Wilson, not only seduced, but to all intents and purposes ruined with respect to their connections with their families.

Tired out with the repetition of vices, or rather crimes, he joined himself to a set of jolly companions, who spent the greatest part of their time in drinking ; but not meeting with that satisfaction among them which he expected, he began to frequent the disputing societies, where
he

he made a most distinguishing figure: for as he was well acquainted with the different incidents in ancient history, he could easily apply them to such as were modern, and by this means he acquired no small share of reputation. Vanity however was still his predominant failing; he thought himself admired by every one who saw him, and his pride taking the alarm, he began to look upon all others with contempt, especially such as opposed him in argument. At last, finding himself reduced to the lowest degree of poverty, he resolved to turn author, and actually wrote a play; but alas! no sooner was it brought on the stage, than his temple companions hissed it in such a manner, that the performers were glad to get off the stage without receiving broken bones, or having the benches demolished.

This mortifying disappointment induced Mr. Wilson to offer his services to a bookseller, who no sooner heard his story than he took him into pay, and employed him to translate several books from the Latin and French. The bookseller took care to furnish him with so much business, that at the end of six months he fell into a disorder that disabled him from writing, and consequently the publication of a capital work was retarded. Add to this, that his last piece had not sold so well as was expected, and therefore the bookseller not only discharged him his service, but at the same time represented him as a senseless idle fellow among the rest of the trade. To complete his misfortune, the bookseller by whom he had been formerly employed, instigated his taylor to take out a writ against him, for some cloaths he had made for him, and in consequence

sequence thereof a bailiff, in woman's cloaths, made his way into his apartment, where he arrested him, and took him to a spunging-house; where he was confined in a garret, there to remain till the return of the writ, or go to prison.

This was a most shocking circumstance for poor Mr. Wilson, and to aggravate his misfortunes, he was told that a lottery-ticket, which he had sold a few days before, had been drawn a prize of three thousand pounds. This distracted him to the utmost, he cursed the day when he sold the ticket; but then, when he reflected that it was done from motives of necessity, he could not see any reason to call his conduct in question. He wrote to several of those persons whom he had assisted while he was in prosperity, but he received no other answers besides a few idle excuses. Such, in general, is the case with those in distress; and this should serve as a lesson for youth, to be continually on their guard, and not part with any thing in its own nature permanent for such as may be only precarious.

While he was ruminating on his misfortunes, he received a letter from a young lady, intimating that her father had bought the ticket that was his property, and inclosed was a bank-note for two hundred pounds; by which he was enabled to pay off his debts, and consequently once more procure his liberty.

Overpowered with such an instance of unexpected benevolence, Mr. Wilson equipped himself with new cloaths, and set out to meet the lady who had so generously relieved him, but she was then out of town. However in a few days she returned, when he fell on his knees before her,

her, in the most humble manner, declaring that he was willing to lay his life down at her feet. She told him, that what she had done she considered as no more than a trifle; but if he could think of any plan of business to enter upon with the least view of success, she would without either interest or security advance him money sufficient for that purpose.

Poor Mr. Wilson was lost in surprize, and still more when he recollected that the young lady was one whom he had formerly courted. All the tender emotions of his soul returned to their proper channels, and, after some words between the fond lovers, a treaty of marriage was concluded, which took place in a few days afterwards. His spouse advised him to follow her father's trade, which was that of a wine-merchant; but he not being perfectly acquainted with the nature of the business, soon fell into some mistakes that brought about considerable losses, and consequently in a great manner reduced their fortune. This was an alarming circumstance, and Mr. Wilson being sensible of the effects that were likely to flow from it, told his spouse that he intended to go and live in a retired manner in the country. His scheme being approved of by his wife, they took the cottage where Mr. Adams found them, but had not been long there when some gypsies, travelling about the country, stole their eldest child, a lovely boy about three years of age. They had never afterwards heard of him, and Adams seeing the distress the gentleman was in, desired him to put his trust in Providence, because at one time or other the child might be found. " That is im-
" possible,

“ possible, sir, (said the gentleman,) for it is
 “ now twenty years since he was stolen; and
 “ were he even to appear now, we should not
 “ know him. Thus, sir, I have finished my
 “ story, which is strictly true; and you may
 “ either blame the first part of my life, or sym-
 “ pathize with me in the subsequent.”

In the morning Mr. Wilson desired Mr. Adams to take a walk with him to see his gardens, with which he readily complied, Joseph being then gone to sleep. The delightful manner in which every thing was laid out surprized Mr. Adams so much, that he told Mr. Wilson his gardener must be a very ingenious person; but the other answered, that the whole was the work of his own hands, for he had both planned and executed it. He added further, that while he was employed in these exercises, his beloved wife was engaged in making such things as were consistent with the duty of domestic life, such as wine, ale, cheese, butter, and all other articles that were necessary for their subsistence. His only comfort, he said, was in giving his young girls an education suitable to their circumstances; for, as he had not much fortune to bestow upon them, he thought it most proper to bring them up to honest industry.

While he was talking in this manner, the young ones surrounded their beloved parent, and implored his blessing, while the eldest acquainted her father that breakfast was ready, and that his company was wanted, as her mother and the two strangers waited for him.

When they arrived at the house, Fanny was just set down to breakfast with the landlady, and,

as she had recovered from her last night's fatigue, she appeared in all the heights of female charms. Joseph admired her with love, mixed with the purest sentiments of innocence, while the good heart of parson Adams made him shed tears of joy, when he beheld the filial duty of Mr. Wilson's children.

The good lady, who was like a mother to all her poor neighbours, was called upon, while at breakfast, to administer medicines to a sick person, and while she was engaged in that benevolent employment, a little dog, that was a favourite of Mr. Wilson's eldest daughter, came into the house all over bloody, and laid himself down at his young mistress's feet.

It seems the poor little animal had strolled only a few yards from the door, and the son of the 'squire, who was lord of the manor, happening to come past at the time, shot him, declaring that Mr. Wilson had no right to keep a spaniel. The poor little creature having licked his mistress's hand, who had taken him on her lap, expired, while the rest of the children were drowned in tears; nor could Fanny, who had a tender heart, refrain from joining them in the general lamentation.

Every thing being settled, Mr. Wilson obliged our travellers to accept of some money, with some cold fowls, and such other things as were necessary for their journey; and having told Mr. Adams that he had some business to transact in Somersetshire in a few weeks, when he would call on him, and spend a few days at his house, Mr. Adams, with Joseph and Fanny, set out under the smiles of the morning. About noon
they

they found themselves in a most beautiful spot, that resembled a natural theatre, and there they sat down to regale themselves on the provisions that their benevolent host had furnished them with.

The charity of Mr. Wilson made such a deep impression on the mind of Joseph Andrews, that he could not refrain from delivering his sentiments on that subject to parson Adams. He told him, that he wondered how those people who enjoyed affluent fortunes could be so mean, and so inhuman, as to refuse to assist their fellow-creatures in distress, especially as a small matter given to a poor family might produce the most beneficial consequences, by stimulating industry, and enabling afflicted parents not only to procure the means of subsistence, but likewise to bring up their children useful members of society.

When Joseph had done speaking, he turned to the parson, but found him fast asleep; upon which some innocent familiarities took place between him and Fanny. While the parson was snoring, and the two lovers enjoying themselves in innocent amusements, a parcel of huntsmen came up with their dogs in pursuit of a hare, which was killed near the place where the parson was drowned in sleep. Some of the hounds fell greedily upon tearing Mr. Adams's cassock, while others applied their teeth to his wig, which he had tied round his head with his handkerchief. Joseph, who had too much gratitude in his nature to see his generous friend in distress without giving him all the assistance he could, grasped his cudgel, and got up to him just at the time that Rockwood, one of the hounds, had demolished

lished one third of his cassock. A most dreadful battle ensued ; but Joseph laid his cudgel about him with such dexterity that the hounds took to their heels, while the 'squire rode up and told Mr. Adams that he was extremely sorry for what had happened, and, to make some attonement for the parson's loss, invited him and his company to dine with him at the hall, which was not far distant.

During the time they were on their journey to the house, all the company took notice of the beauty of Fanny, which was now in its greatest perfection ; but the brutality of their manners induced them to make themselves very merry at the expence of the poor parson, who, by one misfortune and another, was become a very ludicrous figure.

The 'squire, who had invited them to his house, was one of those gentlemen who are ruined by the too fond indulgence of their parents. He had been brought up at home under the care of his mother, and without learning any thing that could be of real service to him, was, at the age of twenty, sent under the care of a tutor to make what is commonly called the tour of Europe. In other words, he was sent to visit France and Italy ; without being able to make one proper observation on the laws, manners, or customs of those countries ; so justly might the following words of the poet have been applied to him :

*Just broke from school, pert, impudent, and raw,
Expert in Latin, more expert in taw,
His honour posits o'er Italy and France,
Measures St. Peter's dome, and learns to dance.*

This

This 'squire was a batchelor, a little turned of forty, and spent his time in hunting along with some mean wretches, who flattered his pride for sake of a dinner; many of whom are to be met with every day, especially in such places where they can procure a favourable reception. His company at this time consisted of a wretched poet, a quack doctor, an officer on half-pay, a musician, and a dancing-master; the whole making such a group of figures as would require the pencil of a Hogarth to delineate.

These nominal gentlemen resolved to make themselves extremely merry with poor Adams, and the plan being concerted, the officer, while he was saying grace before dinner, pulled the chair away from under him, upon which, when he attempted to sit down, he fell to the ground. He had scarce recovered himself from this disaster, when the poet contrived to over-turn a basin of soup into his breeches; while one of the footmen, who had been tutored for that purpose, put a large quantity of gin into the parson's ale, in order to make him intoxicated. It was then proposed that the parson should dance, but this he absolutely refused to comply with; upon which the military gentleman clapped a cracker to his cassock, and set it on fire.

After a great many other ridiculous tricks, inconsistent with humanity, Adams, who found he had been grossly imposed on, laid hold of his cudgel, and he and Joseph set out together, taking Fanny along with them. It was now late in the evening, and our travellers having walked as fast as possibly they could for about an
hour,

hour, found themselves at the door of an inn, or rather an alehouse.

Bread and cheese, with a cup of ale, was all they could procure; but hunger is much better than either cooks or sauce, towards enabling people to relish food. Supper being over, Adams entered into conversation with a Romish priest, who was then in the house; and, as the priest was destitute of money, he told him that he had been benighted by a storm, and that he had not a farthing to pay his reckoning, which in the whole amounted to eighteen-pence. Adams, who never knew how to deny any favour that was in his power to grant, told him, that he had half a guinea in his pocket, and that five shillings of it should be at his service. This was most welcome news to the poor priest, but how greatly was Adams surprised, when putting his hand into his pocket, he discovered that the half guinea was gone, and that he had not a single farthing left.

The poor priest was much disconcerted, but resolving to make a virtue of necessity, told his circumstances to the landlord, who said, that, as he seemed to look like a gentleman, he would forgive him for the present, and trust to his honour for the payment whenever he should happen to come that way. As the priest thought it most prudent not to add any thing to the score, he set out that instant, while Mr. Adams without ever reflecting that he was utterly destitute of money, desired Joseph and Fanny to retire to their respective apartments for the remainder of the night, while he smoked a pipe with the landlord.

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The conversation turned on the conduct of the priest, who had presumed to come in without money in his pocket, and the landlord took notice, that had he known the fellow was so poor, he would not have drawn him a single glass of ale. Mr. Adams observed, that it was the duty of every Christian to relieve their fellow creatures in distress. To this it was answered by the landlord, that the taxes were already too high, and as he was obliged to pay the same taxes, he did not see what reason he had to support beggars; upon which Mr. Adams went to bed.

Our travellers were too much fatigued to think of getting up till morning, and as Joseph awaked first, he began to meditate on the beauties of his Fanny, when he was alarmed by a violent knocking at the door. In an instant, he jumped out of bed, and looking out of the window, was asked, if there were not some travellers in the house, particularly two men and a young woman. As he had some suspicion that they had no good design, he answered in the negative; but one of the men happening to know the landlord, asked him the same question, and was answered in the affirmative, and he then went and opened the door.

Fanny, who had been awakened with the noise, slipped on her gown and petticoats, and ran hastily to Joseph's room, who bid her fear nothing, for he would die sooner than she should receive any injury. But poor Fanny was more alarmed with these words of her lover, than the knocking at the door, and told him, that life would not be of much service to her, if all that she esteemed dear in the world was dead. Joseph clasped

clasped her to his bosom, telling her, that she had now made a declaration through fear, that all his entreaties could never extort from her.

He then ran into the apartment where Adams was still asleep, who no sooner learned what danger they were in, than he hurried on all his cloaths except his breeches, which he forgot in the hurry. The persons whom the landlord introduced, were no other than the retinue of the squire, where they had dined the preceding day, consisting of the poet, the captain, and the player, with three servants in livery. They told the host, that the two fellows above stairs had gone off with a young woman, and they were come to rescue her, and take her back to her relations. The host believed what they said, and they having approached the door of Joseph's room, he called out to them, that he would shoot the first man dead who offered to come in.

The landlord then told the captain that they had no fire arms, but only sticks, upon which the door was forced open, while the poet took to his heels down stairs, lest he should have got a broken head. Poor Fanny was drowned in tears, while Adams gave the captain such a blow on the stomach that he reeled some paces backward. The captain then drew his hanger, and aimed a blow at the parson's head, but Joseph laying hold of a chamber pot, knocked it in his face, with all its contents.

One of the footmen laid hold of a mop, but the parson wresting it out of his hands, levelled him to the ground at one stroke, where he lay sprawling along with the captain. Just at that instant, the host came into the room, and struck

his head into Joseph's stomach, but the lusty youth returned him such a blow under the chin, that he reeled backward. Joseph was going to repeat his blow, when he received a violent stroke on the temples from one of the servants, who had armed himself with a cudgel.

Parson Adams, who had hitherto defended himself with great bravery, was at last conquered by the servants and the landlord, while Fanny rent the air with her cries. But all was in vain, no pity was to be shewn her, for the captain forced her down stairs, and fastened her on horseback behind the player, with as little or less remorse as a butcher kills a lamb. As the parson and Joseph were not now able to do any thing in defence of themselves, the servants according to the advice of the poet tied them to the bed posts, with their backs to each other, ordering the landlord not to suffer any person to come near them, till such time as their master should send them notice for that purpose.

As soon as Joseph had recovered from the stun he had received, he began to lament the loss of his Fanny; and parson Adams, who was no stranger to the wickedness of mankind, and the ways of divine providence, desired him to put his trust in God, and submit with resignation.

In the mean time the captain had conveyed Fanny to the high road, and the sun being now risen, a horseman came up, but refused to give her any assistance, the captain having told him that she was his wife. Soon after two more men on horseback came up, and as good luck would have it, one of them knew Fanny, and ordered the captain to stop. The captain knowing it was
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in vain to oppose two men armed with pistols, found himself under the necessity of relinquishing his prize, and a chariot coming up at the same time, the gentleman in it desired Fanny to ride along with him.

The gentleman in the chariot was no other than Mr. Peter Pounce, steward to Lady Booby, who had set out a few hours before her, and was then on his return to the country, to get every thing ready for her reception. Although a slave to avarice, he was no enemy to a pretty girl, on condition that he could enjoy her without money, and as Fanny was poor he did not doubt of success.

Fanny being thus happily delivered from the hands of her enemies, the chariot proceeded to the inn, where Parson Adams and Joseph were still tied to the bed-posts. Fanny run up stairs to her lover, and Peter Pounce, who was an ar-rant hypocrite, having heard of the parson's situation, he went and ordered him to be set at liberty. The poet and player had both made their escape, but the captain had been detained to answer for his conduct; and Joseph hearing that he was below, ran down stairs, and gave him a more hearty drubbing than ever he had received from the French. Mr. Pounce ordered the captain should be brought into his presence, in order to be carried before a justice of the peace; but the military gentleman had made his escape, while the servants were overpowered with laughing at the drubbing Joseph had given him.

The landlord, who knew Mr. Pounce, was in great terror for the part he had acted, and therefore was obliged to get his wife to intercede for

him; but her persuasions were unnecessary, for both Parson Adams and Joseph declared they forgave her husband: upon which she fell on her knees, and implored every blessing upon them, while her children cried around her.

Every thing being settled at the inn, the chariot moved forward, while Fanny rode behind Joseph on one of the led horses, and Mr. Adams accompanied the steward. They had scarce got within the bounds of Mr. Adams's parish, when Lady Booby in her coach and six came up, and when she saw Joseph her cheeks were covered with blushes which all her pride could not conceal. The people of the parish flocked round their worthy parson, like dutiful children who had regretted his absence; nor were they inattentive to Joseph and Fanny, whose regular conduct and amiable behaviour had endeared them to all with whom they were acquainted. They were both taken home to the parsonage house by Mr. Adams, who found his wife and children in perfect health, and the good woman treated them with the best of every thing she could afford.

Lady Booby could not sleep the whole night, thinking on Joseph; and in the morning, having summoned Slipshod into her presence, asked her, if that fellow had not been turned away? The other answered, he had; and that his modest behaviour brought tears from all the servants present. This flung the lady into a violent passion; who asking Slipshod, why she had turned him away? was answered, that it was by her ladyship's orders.

Next

Next day being Sunday, Lady Booby went to church ; but, O reader ! how great was her surprize, when she heard Parson Adams publish the banns of matrimony between Joseph Andrews and Frances Goodwill. Affectation itself could scarce hinder her from behaving with indecency ; nor could pride, the strongest passion in the female sex, prevent her from blushing. Indeed love, pride, and resentment, were all equally blended in her mind, and it was difficult to say which was most predominant. On her return home she asked Slipslop what business that impudent fellow Joseph had in the parish ? and the waiting-woman having told her that she met him and Mr. Adams, with Fanny, on the road, the parson was ordered to attend her ladyship.

When Mr. Adams had made his appearance, Lady Booby asked him what business he had to bring idle fellows into the parish ? to which the parson answered, that he had not brought him into the parish, for he had obtained a legal settlement by a year's servitude with her ladyship ; and as for the young woman with whom he was to be married, she was not only virtuous, but, at the same time, the greatest beauty he had ever seen.

The word beauty put her into a most violent rage, and after repeating it several times with every mark of contempt, peremptorily ordered the parson not to publish the banns any more. To this he answered, that he was obliged to do it ; for Lawyer Scout had told him, that an action on the case would lay, if he refused. The lawyer Mr. Scout was next sent for, and severely interrogated by her ladyship ; who asked him,

whether he could not get Joseph and that saucy slut sent out of the parish? to which he answered, it would be extremely difficult; but if she would employ him in the affair, he would act in such a manner, as to prevent the marriage from taking place, for there was one Justice Frolick, who would turn him away as a vagrant, whether it was consistent with law or not.

Next Tuesday being a holiday, the lady went again to church, when she heard the banns published the second time, which put her into the most violent agitation of mind; but what was her surprize, when, upon her return home, she was informed that Joseph and Fanny were both taken up, and carried before a justice. She had scarce time to speak when a coach drove in at the gate, in which was her nephew Mr. Booby, with his wife the beautiful Pamela, sister to Joseph Andrews, whom, from motives of love, he had lately married.

Lady Booby was not a little surprised when she saw Pamela; but good-manners, the effect of a polite education, made her treat her relation by marriage with every mark of respect. The common compliments had scarce passed, when a servant came in and whispered Squire Booby in the ear, that his brother-in-law Joseph Andrews was then before the justice, and very near being committed to prison for felony.

The squire begged the ladies pardon for a few minutes, and going out ordered the coach to drive to the justice's, which was not above a mile distant. When he arrived there, he was told by a servant, that the justice would wait on him in a few minutes, as he was then making out the
mittimus

mittimus of two young persons to Bridwell. The squire, however, was not to be put off with any excuses, and therefore rushing into the presence-chamber of the justice, demanded to know what crime the prisoners had been guilty of. The justice told him, that in walking over a field they had broke a twig off a hedge, and that he was only going to have them whipped, and confined a month to hard labour in Bridewell. The squire told him, if he would not immediately discharge them, he was ready to give bail; but the justice saved him that trouble, by throwing the mittimus into the fire, and telling him that as he was a gentleman he would let the prisoners go; for he would not have meddled with them, had it not been to please Lady Booby. From these last words of the justice, the reader will be able to form some notion of the character of those wretches called magistrates, who, being honoured with the King's commission, act like savage beasts of prey, by devouring their fellow subjects and trampling on the laws.

As soon as the two lovers were set at liberty, squire Booby desired Fanny to retire; and taking Joseph into an adjoining room, ordered one of his servants to bring the portmanteau, which had not yet been taken from behind the coach, and made him put on clean linen, by which change in his dress he made a quite different figure than before. He then took both the lovers into the coach, in order to convey them to Lady Booby's house, and in their way thither they were joined by Parson Adams, who happened to be crossing the fields to interpose in their favour with the justice.

When the coach arrived at Booby-Hall, the squire desired Joseph and Fanny to wait below, till he had acquainted his aunt; but no sooner had he mentioned his intention of introducing the two lovers, than Lady Booby declared, that no such saucy trollop as Fanny should enter her apartment: with respect to Joseph, she told him, that although he had been her servant, yet, as he was now his brother-in-law, she had no objections against admitting him.

As the young gentleman knew the inflexibility of the lady's disposition, he said no more; but going down took Joseph aside, and told him he would carry him to his sister, but could not prevail on Lady Booby to see him. This gave Joseph the utmost pleasure; and begging to see his sister alone, the squire told him that he could not comply with his request, because his sister would be fond of seeing him in presence of her husband, and that it would not be in his power to make her alter her resolution. Joseph, who was all obedience, told the squire that he was willing to comply; and, in the mean time, consigning his beloved Fanny to the care of Parson Adams, went up stairs to attend Lady Booby and his sister.

The meeting between Joseph and his sister was the most tender that could be imagined, for no two persons could love each other with purer marks of affection. Squire Booby launched out in praises of Fanny, who, he said, was the greatest beauty he had ever seen, except his lovely Pamela. Lady Booby, who could not bear the thoughts of hearing one woman in the world called more beautiful than herself, often looked
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at the glass, and seemed not in the least pleased with what her nephew had advanced.

The evening being spent in a formally agreeable manner, our company retired to rest. Lady Booby was tortured with the most agonizing reflections, that resentment could suggest and pride nourish; while Joseph spent the night in contemplating the idea of his lovely Fanny. In the morning when Lady Booby arose, she sent for her nephew the squire, and told him, that as he had married Pamela, it was his duty to promote the interest of her brother; and that, as he was a handsome young fellow, she would endeavour to procure him a commission in the army, upon condition that he could be disengaged from that vulgar trollop Fanny.

The squire embraced his aunt's proposal, and going immediately to Joseph, whom he found along with his sister Pamela, he advised him to break off all connections with Fanny, otherwise he would disoblige his parents. In answer to this Joseph told him, that he should be ready at all times to treat his parents with honour and respect; but as he was now arrived at years of maturity to chuse for himself, and as the person upon whom he had placed his affections was every way worthy of his choice, he could not see what reason any person had to pretend to lay a restraint upon him. The truth is, although Pamela had from a poor servant become a lady, yet female passions only served to strengthen her pride; and she could have wished to see her brother dressed in regimentals, rather than married to a poor girl, originally of the same station with herself. On the other hand, Lady Booby,

whose passion for Joseph was now become more violent than ever, imagined that if he was once in the army, she might not think it beneath her to give him her hand, especially as many ladies had done so before.

They were then summoned to breakfast, while poor Fanny, who had not one shilling in her pocket, was walking in one of the avenues leading to the house. Melancholy and dejected, she longed for the return of Joseph; and in the mean time a young gentleman, richly dressed, attended by servants in livery, came up, and asked if that house did not belong to Lady Booby. Fanny, who had not held up her head till that time, answered in the affirmative; upon which the squire jumping off his horse, declared she was the most beautiful creature he had ever seen, and attempted to be rude with her, but all in vain; for she made such resistance, that he was obliged to desist.

He then proceeded on towards the house, leaving the lovely creature to the care of one of the servants, telling him that if he could prevail on her to go along with him, he would take her into keeping. The servant said all he could to make her comply with his master's request, but all to no purpose; for no sooner had he mentioned his infamous business, than she turned from him with the utmost disdain. The pimp, finding all his efforts ineffectual, thought to make her a prize for himself; but that being attended with no better success than the other, he attempted to ravish her. Her cries brought Joseph to her assistance, who no sooner saw the danger his charmer was in, than he knocked out
three

three of the villain's teeth, and laid him sprawling on the ground.

In the mean time Joseph ran to his Fanny, who was drowned in tears, fearing she might have received some injury; but no sooner was she convinced that he was in safety, than she begged that he would go along with her to the house of that good man Parson Adams, whose doors were open for their reception, and who would give them the best advice.

The two lovers arrived just as Mr. Adams and his spouse had finished a long dispute relating to Lady Booby. Mrs. Adams had some thoughts of getting her eldest son into the excise, and for that purpose she had applied to Lady Booby, through the interest of Mrs. Slipshod. She told her husband that all her views would be frustrated, if he proceeded any longer in countenancing Joseph and Fanny, and therefore begged he would not any more entertain them in his house, unless his design was to involve his family in ruin.

The reception, therefore, which the two lovers met with from Mrs. Adams, was rather formal than sincere; but they were not sensible of it, and therefore they sat down in the most friendly manner. For some time the conversation turned upon general subjects, till at last Mr. Adams began to throw out some hints relating to what had passed between him and his wife. Joseph was struck with surprize; but before he had time to make any answer, a person came running in, and told Mr. Adams that his youngest son, a pretty little boy, was drowned. This news threw all present into confusion, Mrs. Adams

Adams screamed out, and the poor parson shed tears in abundance ; while Fanny and the girls testified their sorrow in the most striking manner.

At last poor Adams got up and went to the door ; but how joyfully was he surprised, when he found that his son was still alive, and that he had only met with a hearty ducking. The truth is, the boy had tumbled into a river that ran near the house, and a man coming up at that instant, jumped in and brought him out safe ; which generous person was no other than the honest pedlar, who had relieved the parson at the inn.

The fears of the family having all subsided, the parson began his conversation with Joseph in the same manner as before, desiring him to give up all thoughts of matrimony, but without better success than before ; for Joseph told him that he was fixed in his choice, and all the world should not alter his resolution. He said, he wondered how Mr. Adams could act so inconsistent with his general character, as to advise him to be guilty of a breach of promise, and perjure himself after he was under the most solemn obligations. The poor parson, who was staggered by the force of his reasoning, began to consider the motives from whence his conduct flowed, and freely acknowledged, that the whole arose from the instigation of his wife.

In the mean time Lady Booby, who had not lost sight of her favourite scheme, namely, to make Joseph her own by one means or other, no sooner heard the squire who had met Fanny, represent her as one of the greatest beauties in the world, than she formed a resolution to second his

his suit, by getting her into his possession as a kept mistress. This she thought would be no difficult matter, as Fanny was poor, and no doubt, like all other women, vain; so that she would be fond of fine cloaths.

In prosecution of this scheme, Lady Booby, with her nephew, his spouse, Squire Didapper, and the whole of their retinue, set out for the house of Parson Adams. When they arrived there, the whole family were thrown into the utmost confusion, for they had no thoughts of seeing such visitors. The parson, who was smoaking his pipe by the fire, retired to make room for the company, whom Mrs. Adams treated with all the politeness she was mistress of, and, after some entreaties, prevailed on them to sit down.

Squire Didapper accosted Fanny, while Lady Booby declared she was a most handsome girl; and Parson Adams, who had been summoned to attend the company, entertained Lady Booby with asking his youngest son, who had escaped from drowning, several questions in Latin, all which he answered with the greatest propriety. It is true the lady did not answer in Latin to some questions proposed to her by the parson, in order to obtain a degree of approbation for his son, and the reason was, she did not understand it. She had nothing further in view, than to give the squire time to make good his designs on poor Fanny; for she could not see how a raw country girl would be able to resist his offers.

It was not an easy matter for Joseph to see the liberties taken by the squire with Fanny, and no sooner had he seen him offer her some rudeness,

ness, than he ran up to him, and gave him a hearty box on the ear, which drove him headlong across the room. The women screamed out, and the beau, having recovered himself, drew his hanger; upon which Parson Adams, starting up, laid hold of the lid of a pot, and armed himself with it like a Scotch highlander, in order to wave off the blow from Joseph. Joseph seeing the zeal of the parson, called out to him to let the squire come on, for he had a good cudgel for his reception, which would do more execution than his mean pitiful hanger. Fanny threw herself into the arms of the parson, while Lady Booby ran up to the squire, and insisted that he should lay down his hanger, as all the company were in the utmost consternation. Joseph declared he was willing to fight the squire with any weapon he thought proper, but the beau had more regard to his safety than to trust himself in such hands, and therefore put up his sword; muttering so many curses, that the women were afraid of him, while Parson Adams blessed God that he had never sworn an oath in his life.

Lady Booby told Joseph that he ought not to have struck a gentleman for attempting to kiss a vulgar country wench, but he told her that he would have laid down his life to save her. Squire Booby supported the argument made use of by his aunt, and Pamela told Fanny that she had no right to expect such a husband as her brother. Poor Fanny, who stood drowned in tears, had not one word to say, which Joseph observing, took her in his arms, and declared that he would not call any one his relation, who would treat with
so

so much indignity all that was dear to him in the world.

Accordingly he took Fanny out, and having brandished his cudgel, challenged the 'squire to follow him; but that was not complied with, and parson Adams, overcome with the force of truth and innocence, declared that Joseph was one of the best boys he had ever seen. Lady Booby told the parson that he ought to mind the affairs of his family, and not give himself up to such nonsensical airs, by supporting an idle fellow and a raw country wench. In this she was seconded by the parson's wife, who told the lady that her husband called all the people in the parish his children; but the conversation was interrupted by the ladies being summoned to dinner at the hall.

Poor Adams, whose goodness of heart still made him the friend of the distressed, sat in the most melancholy manner, reflecting on the many occurrences that had happened since he first left his family to travel to London; and although he was willing to do every thing to promote the interest of his family, yet he could not see how it was possible, consistent either with virtue or religion, to solicit a place in the Excise for his son, at the expence of a couple of young persons who from their infancy had shewn the greatest signs of docility, and had learned the doctrines and duties of our holy religion, under his ministry. His wife, however, was not of the same sentiments, for with her, interest was the *summum bonum* of human life: She knew that she had already failed in the attack she had made on what she considered as his weak side, and therefore she
resolved

resolved to assault him in a more tender place, namely, by employing his children to intercede with him. Accordingly the eldest daughter began, by telling her father that she wondered how he could suffer idle people to come to their house, to eat up that bread that was necessary for their own subsistence; that Joseph might go home to his parents, and as to Fanny, she might return to her place from whence she had run away, for if she had a million of money she would not give such a saucy slut one halfpenny to save her from starving. The little boy, whom the pedlar had saved from drowning, immediately answered, that he would give her the bread and cheese which he then held in his hand, and the first halfpenny he got he would take and carry to her. Parson Adams was so touched with this compassion in the boy, that he clasped him to his breast, and told him that he was glad he was a Christian, and that God would bless him for his willingness to serve his fellow-creatures in distress. He said it was the duty of every one to do so, for it was commanded in sacred scripture, and those would be punished in the severest manner who neglected to comply with it.

The young lad told his father that Fanny was not only the best girl in the parish, but that she was much handsomer than any of his sisters; upon which he was near receiving a box on the ear, had not his father warded off the blow.

Just at that instant Joseph arrived, and told the parson he was not come to put him or Mrs. Adams to any inconvenience, but only to beg their company to dinner with him on some bacon and greens, at the George, a small public house that
stood

stood in the same neighbourhood. Mrs. Adams, who was a great economist in domestic affairs, promised to go, and was followed by her husband and the little boy who had been so good-natured to Fanny, and to whom Joseph gave a shilling. The honest pedlar accompanied them at the same time.

Dinner being over, the pedlar told the company, that when he came into the parish he found that the great house belonged to the late Sir Thomas Booby, and having made several other enquiries, he learned that Fanny had been bought by the baronet from a travelling gipsy, when she was not above four years of age. He added, that he was able to give an account of Fanny's parents, if the company would hear him with attention; which they agreeing to, he delivered himself in the following manner.

He told them, that some years ago, while he was on a recruiting party in the west of England, and travelling from Bristol to Frome, he overtook a woman on the road, who seemed to be about the age of thirty, and as she was not over-nice in her choice, nor any way scrupulous concerning favours, they soon struck up a bargain, and lived in an *honest* way as husband and wife.

The regiment having been ordered to Galloway, in Scotland, where it lay some years, the woman was taken ill, and finding the pangs of death upon her, she told her husband, the drummer, that she had a secret of the utmost importance on her mind, and that she could not die in peace unless she disclosed it.

The drummer was all attention, and then she told him that she had travelled several years in
company

company with some gipsies, who made a common practice of stealing children; that she had never been guilty of the practice any more than once, and that was in stealing a young child, a girl, about eighteen months old, which she kept two years, and then sold it to Sir Thomas Booby. He added, that the parents lived at some distance from the hall of the baronet; that their name was Andrews, and that they had a daughter whose name was Pamela.

Fanny, who had changed colour at the first mentioning of her name, no sooner heard that of Pamela mentioned, than she fainted away in the arms of Joseph; while the parson fell on his knees, and thanked God a thousand times that the marriage ceremony had not been performed, lest the service of the church should have been made use of to promote incest.

We shall now leave them in this state of perplexity, and return to take a view of the conduct of the company at Booby-hall.

As soon as dinner was over, lady Booby pretended to be indisposed, and leaving Pamela to entertain 'squire Didapper, went up stairs to her chamber, and threw herself on the bed, in all the agonies of love, rage, and despair. Slipslop, the waiting-woman, was called up to her assistance, and no sooner had she made her appearance, than the lady, notwithstanding all her pretensions to decorum, could not help launching out into many encomiums on the accomplishments of Joseph, and wondered how he could place his affection on such a vulgar country dowdy as Fanny. Slipslop, who was no stranger to her lady's temper, acquiesced in all she said, and
added,

added, that it was a great pity Joseph had not been a gentleman, for then he would have been no improper match for her ladyship. Lady Booby started from the bed, and taking two or three turns across the room, fetched a deep sigh, and said she was sure he could make any lady happy. Slipflop told her, that she might marry him with the same propriety that her nephew had married his sister, and that no person had a right to call her choice in question; that it did not signify what the world said, for many ladies of the highest rank had married their footmen; but here was a strong circumstance in her favour, because the person in question was in a collateral degree her kinsman. She begged her lady to make herself easy, for although the odious Fanny was still in the way, yet she would contrive to get her married to one of 'squire Didapper's footmen, who had already made love to her. This so much pleased the lady, that she ordered the waiting-woman to go and speak to the footman, and endeavour to forward his addresses to Fanny. Slipflop obeyed her orders; but she had not been long gone when she returned in great surprize, and told her lady that one of the footmen, who had been drinking at the George, was just returned, and said that there was a strange man there, who had assured parson Adams that Fanny was the sister of Joseph. This was a most unexpected piece of intelligence, and the lady's passions were wound up to the utmost height; she hardly knew what to say, but in the agitation of her mind ordered the strange man, who was no other than the pedlar, to be sent for. Parson Adams attended at the same time, along with
Joseph

Joseph and Fanny, but squire Booby and Pamela his spouse, were so much offended, that Fanny should be called their relation, that it required all the eloquence of Lady Booby, to keep them in good temper.

Being introduced to the hall, the pedlar repeated the same story as before, without varying in one single tittle, while Lady Booby was covered with blushes lest it should not be true, and Joseph was filled with despair on account of his fear that the order of nature would for ever separate him from his charmer. In the mean time squire Booby, who had attended to all that had been said, desired them to wait with patience till next morning, when he would produce the parents of Joseph Andrews, who would give an account whether this strange story was true or false. This being agreed to, all the company sat down with the greatest good humour together, except the pedlar, who was sent down to the kitchen to regale himself with the servants.

The company in the parlour were extremely merry, except Joseph and Fanny, who knew not in what light to consider each other, and it being a stormy night, parson Adams, as well as Fanny were constrained to stay, notwithstanding their having made many remonstrances to the contrary.

The whole family being retired to rest, squire Didapper, who had not yet lost sight of his designs on Fanny, bribed one of the waiting maids to tell him in which bed she lay. The girl not knowing the room, and at the same time being unwilling to lose her hire, gave him the best direction she could, but as ill luck would have it,
he

he went to Mrs. Slipflop's chamber, and was admitted into bed by that amorous nymph. It was not long however, before he discovered his mistake, and the artful waiting woman, who had some hopes that it was Joseph, finding who was her paramour, and that she had not enjoyed the satisfactory pleasures expected, jumped out of bed and laid hold of the squire by the collar of his shirt, crying out, rape! murder! villains! thieves! with a thousand other names, which very readily flow from female tongues.

Parson Adams, who lay in the next room, no sooner heard the words murther, &c. than he jumped out of bed, and rushed into the apartment of Mrs. Slipflop, without one rag of cloaths upon him except his shirt; but scarce had he entered, when Mrs. Slipflop gave him a most violent box on the ear, which she had intended for the squire.

The parson, who did not know with whom he was engaged, intended to have returned the blow with interest, but missing his aim, he fell upon Mrs. Slipflop, who scratched him in the most terrible manner, while he applied his fists to her sides with such dexterity, that she was obliged to call out that she was a woman. This however did not satisfy the parson, for he said he was sure she was the devil, and having received another hearty punch under the chin, he gave her such a blow on the guts as made her roar out for the assistance of every one in the house.

Regardless however of her cries, he pinned her head down to the bolster, and called out for assistance in a tone as loud as herself, while Lady Booby, who was awake, and heard the whole affair,

fair, slipped on her gown and petticoat, and having a light in her hand, rushed into the chamber, where she found the parson in his shirt, engaged with Mrs. Slipslop, but modesty forbid her to proceed. Slipslop called out for help, or she would be ravished; upon which the lady told the parson, that he was a most lascivious beast, to attempt the chastity of her waiting woman, and extremely ungrateful to her family, to make her house a common brothel.

Poor Adams conscious of his innocence, and at the same time recollecting that he was naked, slipped under the bed-cloaths along with Mrs. Slipslop, who exclaimed most bitterly, and called him a most beastly brute; upon which he darted his head from under the cloaths, and forgetting that there was a woman in bed with him, protested his innocence with the utmost vehemence.

In the mean time, Lady Booby, who had attentively surveyed the floor, saw a pair of diamond buttons she knew belonged to the squire, with several other pieces of his accoutrements, and laughing heartily, told the parson she was convinced of his innocence, so that he might retire to his own private apartment, as soon as she was gone. This the parson consented to, and after having asked Mrs. Slipslop a thousand pardons, he went off; but in his way to his own room, got into that where Fanny lay, and having slipped down the cloaths in the most gentle manner, stepped into bed. Fanny screamed out, upon which Joseph came to her assistance; and the parson, who could not account for his conduct in committing so many mistakes, concluded
that

that the house was haunted by witches. Joseph, who was all good nature and gratitude, freely examined his friend, while Fanny declared, that he had not in the least offered her any injury, so that peace was restored the family for the remainder of the night.

In the morning Mr. and Mrs. Andrews made their appearance, and were interrogated, whether they had any other children besides Joseph and Pamela. Mr. Andrews declared he never had, but Mrs. Andrews fixing her eyes upon Fanny, ran up to her, and cried out, it was she; meaning that she was her own child. This alarmed the whole company, for they could not conceive how the father and mother could so disagree in their accounts, that one would have thought must have been known to both. This the old woman, Mrs. Andrews told them, that when her husband went abroad as a soldier to Gibraltar, she was delivered of a child; and one day some gypsies coming to the door, she went to draw them some small beer, but how great was her surprise when they were gone, that upon looking into the cradle, she found another child substituted in place of her own.

The child left by the gypsies was no other than Joseph Andrews, and as he was a fine boy, the good woman was resolved to take care of him, and call him her own. Accordingly she did so for some time; but times being hard, she was obliged to apply to the parish, who had no sooner heard her complaint, than they took her before a justice, and sent her to the parish, where she then was.

This occasioned a most violent dispute, for the pedlar insisted that Joseph must have a mark upon his breast, and in order to convince the company, the handsome footman opened his shirt, and shewed them a particular mark upon his breast. The mark was no less than a strawberry, which parson Adams had no sooner seen, than he cried out, ‘ God bless me, there is some mystery in this ! ’ He had not time to proceed any further, when a servant came into the room, and desired to speak with Mr. Adams ; when the parson was gone, the pedlar told Joseph, that he might not be under any apprehensions, as it would soon appear that his parents were persons of fortune ; for although, he had been stolen away while a child, yet there were some persons in the world, who would own him.

We have already seen that Mr. Wilson, who had treated Mr. Adams in so generous a manner when he was on his journey, promised to visit that gentleman, when he came on a tour to the west. It is too true that promises are often made, without any intention of their being performed ; but this was not the case with Mr. Wilson, for he really intended to act as he had promised.

Accordingly, just at this instant Mr. Wilson arrived at the Lady Booby’s gate, and his servant was sent up to call for Mr. Adams, for he had been at the parson’s house, and from thence was directed to the hall. The parson having made his appearance, and mentioned the story of Joseph, Mr. Wilson, without any ceremony rushed into the room, and seeing Joseph, desired to see his breast, that he might know whether
 ‘ or

or not there was the mark of a strawberry upon it. Joseph shewed him the mark, which had such an effect on the mind of Mr. Wilson, that he exclaimed aloud, ‘ I have found my long lost son,’ and immediately clasped him in his arms. Joseph knew not what to say, for he was entirely absorbed in thought, but being at last convinced of the reality of the story, he kneeled before his father and asked his blessing.

The whole company were surprised at this discovery, and Lady Booby, who had hitherto remained silent, went out of the room in an agony of despair. Mr. Wilson insisted that his son should accompany him home; but Joseph, who had promised marriage to Fanny, absolutely refused, unless she was allowed to accompany him. Mr. Wilson shewed some reluctance at first; but no sooner was he informed, that Fanny was a good girl, than he gave his consent, and it was agreed that they should be married. The happy day being now arrived, that was to put Joseph in possession of all that was dear to him in the world; he arose in the morning, and dressed himself to the best advantage, though not in an extravagant manner, for he hated all sorts of finery, that were not of real service in decorating the body, so far as to set off natural charms. Mr. Adams performed the marriage ceremony, and the young couple being now happy in the enjoyment of each other, retired to live with Mr. Wilson, who soon after died, and left them a plentiful fortune, without injuring the rest of his children; so that they are now the most happy couple in the world.

The pedlar, whose generosity and disinterestedness had shone in so conspicuous a manner, was not only rewarded with several valuable presents, but also settled in such a manner as to live comfortably during the remainder of his life.

Lady Booby disappointed in all her schemes of making Joseph her own, set out for London, where she gave herself up to gaming; and her passion for men being still predominant, she married a captain of dragoons, which for some time put an end to her misery. From the whole of this narrative, we may learn that those young persons, who form virtuous connections, and abide by virtuous resolutions, will in the end be happy, notwithstanding the many rubs that may happen to come in their way. We have also here a proof of the force of a religious education; for had not the fear of God been strongly impressed on the mind of Joseph Andrews, there is no doubt but he would have fallen into the general snare, and have been ruined as many thousands were before him.

THE

THE
ADVENTURES
OF
DAVID SIMPLE.

THIS novel is written upon the most extensive plan. Nothing was ever better calculated to prevent the ruin of youth, and direct them to place their confidence on proper objects, without being led astray by the cunning sharper or the idle spendthrift. It does not address itself so much to the passions as the understanding. Here the reason itself is as it were brought down to conviction, all objections against the plainest dictates of morality are refuted by examples drawn from real life, vice is shewn in characters so striking that it must appear horrible, and virtue equally amiable. It was written by Mrs. Sarah Fielding, a lady, who to all the graces of a polite education, added the knowledge of the learned languages, and translated from the Greek

the Memorabilia of Xenophon. David Simple, as abridged in this manner, is presented to the public as one of the most valuable presents that can be put into the hands of youth to prevent them from falling into snares and ruin.

Mr. DAVID SIMPLE was the son of Mr. Daniel Simple, a mercer on Ludgate-hill, and his mother, who had been in her youth extremely handsome, was also a good housewife, and the boy David, with his brother Daniel, as soon as they were out of petticoats, were put to a public school. The two boys were so fond of each other, that if the one had but a single penny one halfpenny was given to his brother. David, indeed, was a much better oeconomist than Daniel, so that he had always more money to spend; but this did not lessen their friendship for each other, David being ever ready to assist his brother, who, on the other hand, warned him to be on his guard against the tricks of such of the boys who had a larger share of cunning.

Daniel paid the utmost deference to his brother's merit, and although he often wondered how he came by such a large stock of knowledge, yet he never envied him; and thus they lived together on terms of the strictest friendship, till their father was taken ill, when David, now about seventeen, was sent for home; and the old gentleman having lingered a year under all the pains of a consumption, paid the debt of nature, to the great grief of his children.

The

The death of the father discovered the real sentiments of the two sons, for Daniel, notwithstanding all his pretensions to friendship for his brother, was at the heart a concealed hypocrite. His sole intention, while his father lay on his death-bed, was to use every probable means to induce him to make his will in his favour, to the prejudice of his brother.

In the family was a servant-maid, extremely handsome, and as Daniel had often given her small presents, she told him that his father had given David a paper sealed up, which she believed to be his will. This set Daniel's brains to work, in order, if possible, to come at the will, and substitute a forged one in its place; but the greatest difficulty was to procure witnesses to swear to the truth of it.

In this dilemma he thought of the servant-maid and a young fellow her sweetheart, not doubting but they would, for a small present, perform the work. Accordingly he sounded the girls inclinations, but found she was afraid to commit forgery, lest she should be hanged. Daniel, well knowing where her weak side lay, flung down a hundred guineas, telling her that would get her a husband, and she would be able to live in a better manner than any of her companions; upon which she was so much staggered, that she not only promised to comply, but also to make her lover a partner.

The next business was to steal the will from his brother, which was no difficult matter, seeing the other had not the least suspicion of his integrity. The clerk of a neighbouring attorney was employed to draw up a new will, which be-

ing signed by the girl and her sweetheart, was, by Daniel, deposited in the place from whence he had stolen the other.

David was so much afflicted for the loss of his father, that for some days he took no thought of the will ; but when the first emotions of grief had subsided, he asked his mother and brother to walk up stairs to his apartment. There he read the will, but how great was his surprize, when he found that out of eleven thousand pounds, of which his father died in possession of, the whole was left to Daniel, except sixty pounds a year to the widow, and five hundred to David.

One would have thought that such an unexpected circumstance would have inflamed the passion of David to the utmost height, but quite the reverse took place ; for turning to his brother, he told him, that he must not impute his amazement to any antipathy he had against him, but merely to his concern that some part of his conduct must have prejudiced his father against him, especially as he was the oldest son.

Daniel told his brother that he was sure some wicked person must have prejudiced his father against him, and he was determined to find out the truth ; but David dissuaded him from it, by telling him that whoever were guilty, he would rather loose every thing than be the instrument of bringing them to punishment.

As Daniel did not think proper to pull off the mask all at once, he told David that notwithstanding the differences in the will, yet it would make none in their regard for each other ; and the mother going to reside in the country, the
two

two brothers sold off the goods in the father's shop, and took a private house in the same neighbourhood. For some time they lived on such good terms, that David from an innate principle of real goodness of heart, never took the least notice of the unequal distribution that had been made in his father's will.

But it was not long till he found the unhappiness of a dependance on a brother, whose leading principles were avarice, cruelty, and envy. He could not with any degree of patience bear the thoughts of hearing his brother spoken of by all those, who lived in the neighbourhood, as one of the best and most amiable young gentlemen that ever lived, while no notice was taken of himself, so that contrary to his professions, to the contrary he resolved to assert his own independence and discard poor David.

The servants, who in general are very inquisitive to know their masters affairs, soon discovered that the greatest part of the money was left to Daniel; and therefore consistent with their vulgar self-interested notions thought that it was their duty to court the rising sun. In consequence of that resolution, they began to treat David with very little respect, of which for some time he took no notice, but at last their behaviour was become so shockingly scandalous, that he could not refrain from mentioning it to his brother. Accordingly he made Daniel acquainted with their conduct, but how great was his surprise, when he found that Daniel seemed rather to approve than disapprove of their behaviour, telling him that he was not obliged to please the whims of every person, by turning off

his servants. He told him at the same time, that as he had been very well used in his house, so he thought he had no reason to complain, and if he did not like his reception, he might change it as soon as he pleased. Rage, indignation, and contempt, took place in David's mind, he behaved for some time like one frantic, for notwithstanding the guard he generally had over his natural temper, yet when he found himself insulted by one from whom he had no reason to expect such usage, he was all fury and resentment, and on the present occasion told his brother, that he would remove from his house immediately.

David having left his brother, retired to his chamber, where he gave vent to his grief, and then waited till towards evening, thinking that Daniel might not have been in earnest, and that he would yet be reconciled to him. Accordingly in the evening he went down stairs, and asked for his brother, and being told, that he was gone out with company, all his hopes forsook him, and he went out at the door with only half a crown in his pocket.

He knew not where to direct his steps, and meeting with a beggar, who told him a long story about an unnatural brother having turned him out of doors, he gave him a shilling, so that he had no more than eighteen-pence remaining.

For some time David walked the streets in a disconsolate manner, not knowing where to go, till at last seeing the door of a public house open, he went in, and being shewn into a room, flung himself down in a chair. The landlord asked his

him what he chose to drink, upon which he answered, that he did not desire any thing. This was not in the least agreeable to the landlord, who took notice in the most surly manner, that if he did not want any thing, he knew not what business he had to come into a public house. David now recollected where he was, and told the landlord that he wanted a bed, upon which he was conducted to one after he had paid the stipulated price.

In the morning when he got up, he began to reflect on the most proper methods to be used by him in his present distress. He knew not of any offence that he had given to his brother, and in the perplexity of his mind, he recollected that he had an uncle living, who had always treated him with the greatest tenderness. The old gentleman was surprised to see him, but no sooner had he learned what had brought him thither, than he told him that he was welcome to remain at his house till such time as matters could be accommodated between him and his brother; we must now return to the servant wench, by whose iniquity the will had been forged, and consequently trace the footsteps of divine providence. Soon after she had got the money from Daniel, she married her sweetheart, and for some time they lived happy enough; but the money being spent, they began to mutually upbraid each other, and instead of love discontent took place. Both husband and wife seemed willing to imitate the conduct of their betters, by entering into articles of separation, and while they were deliberating on that measure, they learned that poor David had been turned away, upon which their consciences

flew in their faces, and they resolved to make a discovery of the whole.

It is true, the wife who had the principal hand in this infamous transaction, thought it would be much better not to make the affair known, lest it should bring them to shame, for she was sure it was not as bad as *murder*. The husband, whose name was John, pretended to be of the same opinion, but he only dissembled his real intentions, for finding where David was, he went to the house of his uncle, and enquired for him.

Being shewed into a parlour, he was told by the uncle, that David was confined to his bed with illness; but if he had any thing to communicate to him, he would be sure to deliver it. This however did not satisfy John, who told the uncle, that what he had to deliver was of the utmost importance, and that he could not reveal it to any but himself.

As the uncle did not know what the business might be, he ordered one of the servants to conduct him up stairs, where being left alone with David, he fell upon his knees, and confessed all the circumstances relating to the forging of the will. David was too much afflicted to think of any thing, nor did he know in what manner to act, but resolved to consult his uncle. Accordingly the old gentleman was sent for, and being made acquainted with the whole affair, desired David to compose himself, and leave it entirely to him, he being determined to see justice done to him.

In the mean time the old gentleman took John into a room, and having learned the whole particulars,

culars, sent for an attorney, who having called a constable, went to the place where John's wife lived, and threatened to take her into custody, unless she made a free and open discovery. The terrors of a prison obliged the woman to comply, and then the uncle, in order to prevent any undue practices, took both John and his wife home to his own house. He then went to Daniel and told him, that unless he refunded his brother's fortune, he would prosecute him at common law, which had such an effect upon him, that he gave him up eight thousand pounds, being all he had left, for the rest had been spent among lewd women.

David, who was now beginning to recover from that severe illness, by which he had been long confined to his bed, no sooner heard what his uncle had done, than he thanked him with tears of the most divine gratitude, but at the same time insisted, that an annuity should be settled upon his brother, resolving at the same time, if Daniel should spend his money in an extravagant way of living, he would still support him.

Providence, which seldom fails to reward the benevolent, made David an ample amends, for his good uncle died within a few weeks afterwards, leaving him sole heir, with a personal estate of ten thousand pounds.

David being now in possession of an independant fortune, resolved to turn the whole to the benefit of his fellow creatures, for he had no notions of any ambition that exceeded the bounds of the purest virtue. Friendship was the leading motive that directed all his actions, and he thought that if he could procure one real friend, he would be compleatly happy. He had lived
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from the time that he left his brother in the most recluse manner, but now he was fully determined to visit mankind, and see in what manner principles operate upon men in common life.

Accordingly having put on his great coat, and armed himself with a stick, he set out on a journey through London and Westminster, not doubting but, that in two such opulent cities he would find a real friend. The first place he visited was the Royal Exchange, where he heard such a confusion of voices, that he knew not what to make of it. In this maze of uncertainty a gentleman pulled him by the sleeve, and told him, that if he would buy some stock, he would make it double profit for him.

The stock broker had scarce done speaking when news arrived that the stock had fallen twenty per cent. and a gentleman coming up to David told him, that the person who wanted to speak to him about the stock was an arrant cheat, and only sought to impose on him.

David was so much surprised at what he heard from the two different gentlemen, that he knew not what to say, till another person came up, and told him, that the last person who had spoken to him, had an antipathy against him who spoke first, because he was a good man.

This last expression struck David so much, that he could not help asking what he meant by a good man. The other told him, that he was worth one hundred thousand pounds in money, and as goodness and riches were synonymous terms in the city, therefore he was justly entitled to that appellation.

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This enraged David so much, that he resolved not to remain any longer in a place where riches took place of virtue, and duplicity of sincerity. Accordingly he left the Change, but just as he was passing through the outer gate, he met a jeweller, whom he had often seen at his uncle's, and he having invited him to dinner, David resolved to go along with him.

Mr. Johnson, was the name of the jeweller, who, as he had been a vile debauchee in his youth, so in his old age he became an avaricious miser. He had two daughters, both extremely handsome, especially the youngest, who had something so engaging in her behaviour, that David could not help taking notice of it, which the father observing, insisted that David should remain a few days in his house.

Mr. Johnson left nothing undone to recommend his daughter, but at the same time cautioned her, that if David made any addresses to her, to favour them as much as possible, it being much for her own interest to do so. David thought himself now the happiest man in the world; he loved a woman, who seemed to be a perfect pattern of virtue, for she was obedient to her parents, humane to the servants, and affable and engaging to all who visited her. After three months stay in the house, he obtained her consent, and now he imagined that nothing was wanting to complete his bliss in this world.

Mr. Johnson had no objection to the match, but he had deep schemes in his mind, as will appear from the following part of his conduct. Mr. Johnson's business naturally led him to be conversant with Jews, and in the course of his
acquaintance

acquaintance, a rich Jew fell as much in love with his eldest daughter, as David had done with the youngest.

But there was one difficulty not very easy to be got over, and that was the young lady being a Christian, and therefore he thought it would be much more prudent if he could procure her on less difficult terms than marriage, or in other words, he imagined, that as her father was a man destitute of virtuous principles, and the young lady not much better, he might have influence enough to seduce her.

Accordingly he took the first opportunity of making the infamous proposal to her father, by offering him a round sum of money; which pleased him so much, that he told him, he would consider of it, and give him an answer next day. Mr. Johnson held a long consultation with himself what method to take, or what scheme to follow, but at last thought marriage was the most preferable.

Next morning when the Jew came according to his promise, Mr. Johnson told him, that he was extremely sorry to find he wanted to dishonour his family; but as his love for his daughter was so violent he could excuse him, and that he had no objection against his marrying her. As for her being a Christian, it would be no objection, for she was not a bigot, and this was certainly true, for she did not consider religion in any other light than as a form or custom, for people to shew their fine cloaths on Sunday at church. She knew the Jew was rich, and that he would be continually making her fine presents, for he professed to be so enamoured
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of her person, that nothing seemed too valuable for him to give.

As every preliminary was settled for the marriage, the Jew brought one day along with him an old acquaintance, whose name was Nokes, and as he was old and ugly, he did not fear that he would by any of his arts steal his mistress. But it was not long before old Nokes, who was immensely rich, fell in love, or rather wished to have David's mistress. He went immediately to her father, and told him, that he would make her whatever settlement she pleased, which the father embraced, and it was agreed on that she should be married to him, notwithstanding the most solemn promises that had been made to David.

When Mr. Johnson had communicated his sentiments to his daughter, she went up to her chamber to consider what she should do. Love for David on the one hand, and the love of riches on the other, wrought strongly on her mind; she could not see, consistent with honour, how she could part with David, and on the other, it was not in her nature to bear the thoughts of seeing her sister elevated to a degree above her.

While she was ruminating in this manner, and distracted with the most torturing thoughts, one of her female companions, who had always been her confidant, came to visit her. To this young lady she opened her mind, and was by her advised to have David, as he was young and handsome; but nothing could divert Miss Johnson's mind from the love of grandeur.

It happened, that while the two young ladies were talking together, David happened to be going

going up stairs to his apartment, but hearing his name frequently mentioned by them, he was curious to know what subject they were talking of. In short, he heard so much, that he began to look upon his mistress as one of the meanest and basest wretches that ever existed. He was sorry that he had placed his affections on so unworthy an object, whom he had loved with the greatest tenderness; and yet could be so mean, base, and mercenary, as to hesitate one moment whether she should marry the man whom she loved, or, for the sake of riches, throw herself into the arms of an old decrepid wretch, who had one shoulder ten inches higher than the other, and whose legs were in a manner turned inside out.

Love, rage, contempt and despair, alternately took place in his mind; he walked about in his room like one who was raving mad, and for almost a whole hour continued repeating all the passages that he could remember in satirical poets against the perfidy of women. At last he resolved to have no more to do with her, but, at the same time, such was the tenderness of his nature, that he determined not to do or say any thing that might injure her character.

When Joseph went down stairs, he ordered a coach to be got ready, and having put his cloaths into it, told Mr. Johnson and his daughter, that he must never see them more, for he had sufficient reason to believe, that the one wanted to deceive him, while the other was destitute of every virtuous principle. He then took his leave in the most formal manner, leaving Mr. Johnson no way dissatisfied at his departure, for in truth

truth he was glad to get rid of a lodger, whose presence seemed to be a bar in his daughter's way to a splendid retinue, an affluent fortune, and all the blandishments of dress.

As soon as he was gone, Mr. Johnson went to his daughter's apartment, but how great was his surprise, when he found her raving like a mad woman, and tearing her hair. She cried out, that she was for ever ruined, and her father, who had no notion of a woman's being ruined any more ways than one, concluded that David had seduced her, and was going to fly into a most violent passion; but when he began to recollect that the affair was not yet public, he changed his mind, and told her, if any man had ruined her, yet her shame might be concealed by marrying Mr. Nokes.

This inflamed her passions still more, as she could not learn nor understand what he meant by such an expression, and told him, she wondered how he could doubt her virtue. She added, at the same time, that unless David was brought back to her, she would shut herself up in her closet, and never converse with any man for the future.

Mr. Johnson, who had been in his youth well acquainted with female passions, contented himself with this reflection, that vanity would soon overcome the agitations of his daughter's mind, and that the love of splendour would satisfy her, by reconciling her to a marriage with the old decrepid Mr. Nokes. Indeed he was not wrong in his conjecture, for soon after this affair his eldest daughter was married to the rich Jew, and the splendour of her equipage induced her sister to
look

look with contempt on David, and give her hand to Mr. Nokes.

She now thought her happiness complete, but the sunshine of bliss was soon obscured, and as her husband, who was naturally of a sour temper, became daily more so by diseases, he thought that the woman, whom he had married without a fortune, ought to submit to all his peevish humours. Her mind was now perfectly distracted, her house seemed worse than a cottage, and nothing gave her any hopes, but the thoughts that she would survive her odious husband. However, an end was soon put to all her misery, for her husband died of a spotted fever, and she having caught the infection, survived him only a few days.

Having thus conducted her to the end of all human wishes without making her happy, we must now return to David, whom we left getting into the hackney coach. Having ordered the coachman to drive to Fleet-street, he there took lodgings in the house of a tradesman, and for some time found it no easy matter for him to conquer a passion that had given him so much uneasiness. At last, however, he began to reflect in what manner he had been used by the woman whom he loved, and the man who pretended to be his friend, and the consideration of this summoned all his resolution and fortitude to his assistance. He resolved to take lodgings at the end of each week at a different house, in order, if possible, to find out a real friend; for although he had been hitherto deceived, yet he could not be brought to believe, with Mr. Hobbes, that all mankind are alike.

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His first business when he went into a new lodging, was to enquire of the landlord or landlady concerning the characters of the people who lived in the same neighbourhood, but the answers he received were no way satisfactory; for faults were heightened, while real merit was traduced. He found that every one looked upon themselves as better than their neighbours, and although Dávid was not disposed to believe all they said, yet he doubted not but some part of it was true. In particular, he was sure to find the women tearing each others characters to pieces, in the same manner as the wolf does a lamb, while the men were doing the same with all those they knew.

In one of the families where he lodged the landlord died, and left behind him three daughters, one of whom attended him in his illness with the greatest care, and for some days after his death they all lamented the loss of such a worthy parent. This gave David the highest ideas of their filial duty, and as he could not help sympathising with them, so the goodness of his heart induced him to say all he could to make them reconciled to the dispensations of divine providence.

The day after the funeral the father's will was opened, and it was found that he had left all his effects to be equally divided among his three daughters, but how greatly was David surprised, when, going into the dining-room, he found them in a violent dispute about a most beautiful carpet that had been made a present of by a Turkish merchant to their father. Each insisted on having it, but that was impossible, and there-
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fore it was agreed upon that it should be cut into three pieces. David was so much shocked at such meanness, that he immediately packed up his cloaths and left the house.

He then took lodgings in the Strand, and as he was one day walking along that celebrated street, he saw a man with so much content painted in his countenance, that he could not help wishing to be acquainted with him. Accordingly he followed him home, and, on enquiry, found he was a carpenter, who worked for fifteen shillings a week, and brought home all his money to his wife. That they lived together in the most contented manner. This excited his curiosity so much, that he called at the carpenter's house, or rather lodgings, and told him, he was so much pleased with the accounts he had heard of him, that he had presumed to eat a bit of dinner in his apartment. The carpenter thought himself highly honoured, because his good-nature was such, that he thought he could never have too many witnesses of his wife's virtuous conduct, whom he looked upon as superior to all the rest of her sex. He told David that he was extremely happy, and that he would shew him a woman who had not her equal in the universe, neither gentle nor simple.

When David and the carpenter had sat down, the virtuous wife, who was then in bed, altho' it was noon, got up, and ordered a poor boy to dress a stake, while she sat with all the airs of vulgar importance. She had formerly been waiting-maid to a lady of quality, so that she had learned to reverse the order of nature by turning day into night, and night into day. She was
extremely

extremely ugly, but her self-sufficiency, and the nature of her education having been superior to that of her husband's, she obliged him to behave to her with great reserve, and even to approve of every thing she did, whether it was right or wrong.

That David might have a perfect knowledge of the state of this family, he agreed to board with them a week, but he soon found that all the happiness the husband enjoyed was only imaginary, for had he acted like a man of spirit, he might have asserted his own importance, without being guilty of an act of cruelty to his wife. He saw that the woman lived at a rate far above her husband's circumstances, and that nothing but uneasiness of temper, almost bordering on insanity, could have induced him to put up with all the hardships to which he was daily reduced by her conduct. One day while they were at dinner a neighbour came in, who was one of those persons known by the name of a jolly companion, or, in other words, a drunkard, who minded every person's business but his own. He said that his wife was in her sulky airs, and that he was determined not to remain any longer at home than while she continued in a good humour, which he was afraid would never take place while she lived.

David was so much struck with what he heard the man say concerning his wife, that he told him he would go and board a week with him, to which the other very readily consented. Accordingly they set out together, and when our hero entered the apartment, he saw a woman sitting hard at work with two young children playing

ing around her. She had the remains of beauty in a countenance that, although young in years, yet seemed wasting under the effects of grief, from the severe treatment she had often received from her husband. The children, though meanly dressed, were neat and clean; from which circumstance David inferred, that the mother must be a quite different person, in the whole of her conduct, from what she was represented by her husband. He saw that she did every thing with a mixture of love and fear, and while she seemed to wish well to the man, she dreaded the tyrant.

One day, her husband having gone out, David desired to know some particulars concerning her family, and the cause of that dejection that was very visible on her countenance. As she was endowed with a large share of affability and good-nature, she delivered herself to him in words to the following import.

She told him that her father had been an eminent distiller in the city, but that he died when she was only ten years of age, and left her to the care of her brother, who had succeeded to his father's business, her mother having died when she was only an infant. That as she grew up little care was taken of her education, and as her brother was an ill-natured man, she had none to consult with concerning the regulation of her conduct.

In the mean time she grew up, and was reputed very handsome, so that some young fellows in the neighbourhood began to take notice of her; among these was an attorney's clerk, who pestered her so often with letters that she thought proper

proper to grant him an interview, and her youthful heart was soon captivated by his flattery. Her brother refusing to give her any advice, she knew not what methods to use, nor what plan to pursue ; and one day a tradesman came to dine with them, who was young and well settled in business.

This person was proposed by her brother as a husband ; but she told him that she was in honour and conscience bound to give her hand to another, which enraged him so much, that he told her she should never have one farthing from him. This threw her into the utmost despair, and having no friend to consult with, she gave her hand to her first lover.

Marriages contracted in too violent haste generally end in disgust, and it was not long before the husband, who was a perfect rake, forsook his profession as an attorney, and gave himself up to idleness and extravagance. His father gave him five hundred pounds, which he soon spent in all sorts of debauchery ; and previous to the old gentleman's death, he settled thirty pounds a year on his wife, which she was weak enough to give up to her husband, who sold it, and spent the money in the same manner as the other. She concluded her story, by telling him that she had now nothing to support her besides her own industry, by taking in plain work ; for altho' her husband had a brother who allowed him a small trifle annually, yet he spent it in public-houses.

David, whose heart was all compassion for those in distress, gave her five guineas, and told her that as soon as he went home he would send

her more, which he punctually performed, and in the mean time retired to meditate on the different characters of people in the world. He wondered that the carpenter should see no faults in a woman who was an object of contempt, while another, who was an ornament to her sex, should be treated inconsistent with the first principles of humanity.

According to the plan laid down by our hero, of removing from one place to another, he took lodgings in Covent-Garden, where he became acquainted with a French gentleman who lodged in the same house, and whose name was Orgueil. He seemed to be a person of great good-nature, an easy affability, and an universal acquaintance with mankind in general.

David was so pleased with the company and conversation of this gentleman, that he began to consider him as the most accomplished person he had ever met with. He was seldom out of his company, and finding that Mr. Orgueil was frequently with gentlemen of the learned professions, he begged leave to go along with him. This request was complied with, and the next evening they went to a tavern, where they were met by four gentlemen, who used to assemble at the same place. The conversation was so engaging, that David looked upon himself as extremely happy, for each seemed to have nothing farther in view besides that of pleasing the others, nor was there the least appearance of envy, all was good-humour and good-nature.

When the morning arrived David was earnest to enquire into the characters of the gentlemen whose conversation had given him so much pleasure

sure the preceding evening ; but how great was his surprise, when he found he was as severe in the remarks he made on every part of their conduct, as ever the women had been on each other. He told him the gentleman who sat next him, and who was so full of his encomiums on benevolence, was such a most wretched miser, that he would not give one shilling to save the whole human race from destruction.

Another gentleman, who sat on the other side, having harangued much against extravagance, David was earnest to learn his real character ; but how great was his surprise, when his friend informed him that he was one who lived by procuring money from any one who would trust him, and no sooner had he got it, than he spent it in taverns and bawdy-houses. That he took great pleasure in leading youth into all manner of extravagance, and the sooner he saw them ruined, the more satisfaction it gave him.

The next gentleman taken notice of, was one who had in a particular manner engaged David's attention, because he declaimed in the most severe terms against treachery, perfidy, or that of one friend betraying another ; a practice that had already been rather too common in the world. He was, it seems, the son of a gentleman, who died when he was little more than fifteen years of age, and left him without any fortune, exposed to all the hardships of an injurious world. Destitute of the comforts as well as the necessaries of life, an old gentleman in the same neighbourhood took him under his protection, and after having given him a genteel and useful education, procured him a commission in the army. For

some time he served with no small degree of applause ; but a treaty of peace having been concluded, he returned to his generous benefactor, who had an only daughter not above fifteen years of age. The young couple soon became fond of each other, and our officer, in spite of all the obligations he was under to the father, ruined the daughter, and left her in a condition more easy to be imagined than described.

The poor young creature endeavoured to conceal her shame as long as possible, but her tender compassionate father begged that if she had any regard for his happiness, she would not conceal the cause of her uneasiness from him : at last she told him, but who can express the horrors of his mind on that occasion. Nothing, however, could make him upbraid her ; and the poor young creature, being overcome with the effect of so much compassion, fell into fits and died within a few days afterwards, leaving her father in the most inexpressible agony, who soon followed her to the silent grave.

The rest of the characters were all taken to pieces in the same manner ; and David, who could not refrain from shedding tears, began to be convinced in his own mind, that nothing was more deceiving than appearances, and that the stronger people's professions in general were, the less regardful they were of necessary duties.

Mr. Orgueil next evening proposed their going to the play, because a new one was to be acted, and it was expected that there would be a great concourse of people to see it. This gave great satisfaction to David, who imagined such a numerous company would give an additional lustre

tre to the author, who had already acquired more fame than money ; but how great was his surprise, when he found that one half of the company were to applaud, and the other half to condemn.

David wondered how such a conduct could be consistent with the character of rational creatures ; for who could go to the playhouse with a view of condemning or applauding any thing that they did not know the nature of. Indeed he thought the whole the most inhuman business he had ever heard of, but resolved at the same time to go and see the play. He found, however, the account given him by his friend was strictly true, for the play was condemned before the actors had been able to go through with the one half.

David was so melancholy the next day, that he scarce spoke one word till towards evening, when his friend said all he could to enliven his spirits, but to no purpose ; for David told him he could never be easy, while he considered himself surrounded with beasts of prey, who lived by devouring each other. For that night he went to bed, but did not rest much, for his head was full of what he had seen the preceding day ; and in the morning he got up, in little better condition than when he went to bed.

He found Mr. Orgueil at breakfast along with a strange gentleman, and was told by him, that as he was obliged to go out about some business during the remainder of the day, the stranger would keep him company, in order to divert his melancholy. This was very agreeable to David, and no sooner was Mr. Orgueil gone, than he

began to ask some questions of the stranger concerning him.

Here he was told, that Mr. Orgueil was one of the vilest wretches that ever lived; for he pretended to every virtue, and at the same time was a slave to the most odious vices. That such was his pride, that when any person applied to him for a favour, he was sure to treat him with the utmost contempt, especially if he was in low circumstances.

David was now so much shocked that he resolved to leave the house without taking leave of his friend, and the stranger, whose name was Mr. Spatter, offered to accommodate him with part of his lodgings in Pall-mall.

Hitherto we have seen David in such scenes of life as do not exceed the degree of a common tradesman: but now that we have conducted him to Pall-mall, we must usher him into high life, and introduce him to the acquaintance of those great and elevated beings, whose very follies are considered as shining virtues, and whose grossest vices are looked upon as only trifles.

This new friend, Mr. Spatter, told him that, previous to his being introduced into any of the polite circles, he must purchase Mr. Hoyle's book on whist; for it was such a fashionable thing to have it, that all those who were destitute of it were looked upon as mean pitiful fellows.

David objected against purchasing the book, for this plain reason, that he had no use for it; nor could his friend prove that it was any other ways useful, than as it was fashionable.

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At last it was agreed that our adventurer, along with Mr. Spatter, should visit the most noted houses for gaming, whether private or public, and such places where assemblies were held, to try if there was any more sincerity among the people who assemble there, than he had met with among those of a lower class; for it was his opinion, that the more elevated people are in life, the more conspicuous their virtues must shine.

The many tricks that David saw practised in the first gaming-house to which he was introduced, gave him but little hopes of meeting with a real friend; for under all the specious pretences to probity and honour, he could discover malice and chicanery in those who engaged, one party triumphing over the losses their neighbours had sustained, while the others were sunk in despair.

On their return home, David asked his companion if that was the way in which polite people spent their time; and being answered in the affirmative, our hero took notice that no employment in life could be more dishonourable, or more inconsistent with their station. Spatter told him, that during several years that he had resided at the court end of the town, he found that the greatest number of cheats and sharpers were to be met with in polite circles; and he concluded by tearing to pieces, in the most unmerciful manner, the characters of every one whom they had seen engaged in play.

Next morning Spatter took our hero to a lady of quality, who had been at cards the preceding evening; but there he was not entertained in any better manner than before. He could hear

nothing but what related to winning and losing, which was so disagreeable, that he resolved at the end of the first week to remove from his new lodgings.

There was one particular which David could not help taking notice of, and that was the conduct of some persons, who seemed to play in so careless a manner, as if they did not mind whether they won or lost. In this he was answered by the other, that these persons played for no other reason, than to have it said, that they had spent the evening with the Earl of Sharpset and the Dutchess of Hurricanes.

When he was left alone, he began to reflect on the many scenes that had lately come under his observation, but nothing troubled him so much as the conduct of Spatter. He was shocked to hear him abuse every person whom he mentioned, and did not know how to reconcile it with his complaisant behaviour to himself, for he had always treated him with the utmost respect. Upon the whole he began to conclude that Spatter was at the bottom a good man, and that his speaking against any of his fellow-creatures arose from his detestation of vice, and not from any hatred to their persons.

Their next visit was to a lady of quality, who was in great repute for her wit; but when they came there, how wretchedly was David deceived, when he found no other entertainment but that of hearing those who were absent traduced in the most scandalous manner.

David could contain himself no longer; he made a signal to his friend that he wanted to depart, and they both returned home to their lodgings.

ings. Upon their arrival a silence ensued for some minutes, till David told Spatter that he had taken notice of a young lady who sat silent, and by the whole of her behaviour seemed to be an ornament to her sex. Spatter told him she was no better than the rest of the company, only that she was not married, and all unmarried women, especially ladies, were silent before marriage, but very talkative after it.

David, who began to have not only a mean, but even the most contemptible opinion of his companion, intimated to him that he considered him in no better light than a hater of mankind. Mr. Spatter only laughed at him, and told him that his notions concerning mankind were no ways consistent with truth, for he sought to obtain what was not to be found. He added, that even the learned were not exempted from the vices that he had so much complained of among the great, and, in proof of his assertion, told him that he would take him next evening into the company of a most noted critic, who had been employed many years in discussing the merits of the ablest writers. David consented, and both parties set out for the place of meeting.

When they came to the tavern, they found three gentlemen sitting and talking in the most authoritative manner on the merits of writers in general. In particular one of the gentlemen went on in a long detail of the merits of Homer, and when he had finished his speech, he looked round as anxious for applause. The two other gentlemen could not forbear complimenting him on his superior knowledge and vast erudition,

nor did they animadvert on any one single passage.

David was now impatient to be gone, and upon their return to their lodgings, he told Spatter that he did not see any great harm in people indulging their humour, nor was it very criminal in others to bestow upon them that applause which they so ardently courted.

In answer to this, Spatter told him that the three gentlemen, with whom he had spent the evening, had long been reputed the greatest wits and critics in town; and that it was their constant practice to meet every night at the same tavern, in order to murder the reputation of any new author, who ventured his works on the patronage of the public. That it was an established rule with them for one to speak at a time, and the other two to applaud him, whether what he said was right or wrong. By these means they put to the blush all those who attempted to make any remarks on what they said, so that there was not a young author that would venture to open his mouth in their company.

Mr. Spatter then told him, that if he would go along with him next day, he would introduce him into the company of a set of persons called *No-bodies*. David was startled at this last expression, and having ruminated all night upon it, asked Spatter in the morning, what he meant by such a term. Spatter told him, that by *No-bodies* he meant a set of men who could not, with any degree of propriety, be said to belong to any class whatever. They spent one part of the day in coffee-houses, another in the park, the
afternoon

afternoon at eating-houses, and the evening in taverns. That destitute of every pretension to real merit, or any thing that had the least appearance of it, they were so vain, that they looked upon themselves as persons of importance.

David consented to go, and the whole day was spent in such a vain dissipated manner, that not one single occurrence took place that ought to be recorded. Even the insipid follies of youth, and the innocent amusements of children, would have been much more entertaining.

Upon their return home in the evening, David took notice that he had spent at least one agreeable day; for if the gentlemen had nothing of merit to recommend them, yet, certain it was, they had not spent the time in traducing the characters of others, a vice he considered in the most odious light. Spatter made no other answer, save that of pronouncing them, according to his usual method, either fools or knaves; after which they both retired to rest.

Next day they went to a tavern, where they met one Mr. Varnish, a gentleman of a very talkative humour, and with him they dined in the most agreeable manner. When dinner was over, the conversation turned upon the characters of men; and as David had hitherto heard nothing but accusations against his fellow-creatures, he listened with attention to every thing said by Mr. Varnish: but how agreeably was he surprised, when he found that the gentleman spoke well of all characters in general.

The vices of mankind were so gilded over by him, as to appear in the light of real virtues;

avarice was represented as prudence, pride as a laudable ambition, and the most unbounded extravagance he considered as benevolence and liberality. On the other hand, Spatter poured out a load of abuse upon every person whose name had been mentioned, and ascribed all their good actions to bad motives.

David was lost in speculation ; he applauded Mr. Varnish for the goodness of his heart, but at the same time began to consider him as one who viewed human nature only on the fair side. On the other hand, he looked on Spatter as a most malevolent wretch, who could not see virtue even in the most laudable actions, and considered him as one who was not fit to be a member of human society. In the evening, when they came home, he communicated his sentiments to him, but was only laughed at as a fool, in his usual way.

Poor David got up next morning, and without taking leave of any one in the house, sallied forth in quest of new adventures. He had only walked through two or three streets, when he met Mr. Varnish, who expressed great pleasure in seeing him. David was equally pleased, and it was agreed upon between them that they should take a walk in the Park.

As soon as they were by themselves, Varnish told David, that he was much surprised how he could take pleasure in the company of such an one as Spatter, who made it his sole business in every company to treat him with the utmost ridicule. He added, that in all companies into which he came, he reported him as a madman, who had
set

set out in search of a real friend, while no such character was to be met with in human life.

David was shocked beyond expression, for although he looked upon Spatter in the most odious light with respect to his private sentiments, yet he did not imagine that he could be so base as to traduce his character while he was pretending the utmost friendship to him. Varnish, in answer, told him, that Spatter was so naturally accustomed to speak ill of others, that nothing could restrain him from it; and he mentioned one instance where he knew him give a small matter out of his pocket to relieve a gentleman in distress, but no sooner was he gone out of his company, than he traduced him in the most scandalous and infamous manner.

Next day David removed from the lodgings he had at Spatter's, and went to reside with Varnish, whom he began to consider in a more amiable light than ever he had done the former. Like Spatter, he was equally acquainted with the town, but he appeared not to have any share of his malevolence, so that there is no wonder so good-natured a man should contract a friendship with such a person,

Having spent the evening in the most agreeable manner, Varnish, when they had breakfasted, told David that he would introduce him to a lady of quality. His proposal was readily embraced by our hero, who was seldom out of his way, and both parties set out together. After the common compliments were over, the lady introduced them to three other ladies, who appeared to be either her relations, or at least her most intimate friends, and one of them was
young

young and extremely handsome. She seemed much dejected in her countenance, and David, whose heart was naturally tender, could not help sympathising with her, and began to be very uneasy. The lady, judging what were his motives, ordered Cynthia (for that was the name of the young lady) out of the room, at the same time making use of some low vulgar expressions, not very becoming a female character, though too often found connected with it. When she was gone, the lady took notice that she was a most ungrateful young wretch, whom she had taken into her service as a companion, and that she had seduced her son, a boy of seventeen years of age, to promise her marriage, although she had not a shilling in the world.

The other ladies were equally liberal in their abuse of this young creature; but David, although no friend to ingratitude, thought if she was really as they represented her, she ought not to be treated in such a manner, but peaceably dismissed from the house. This occasioned a smart dialogue between David and the ladies, concerning the nature of obligations and gratitude; but no part of it is worth relating, however lively it might have been at that time.

In the evening our two gentlemen returned home, and David, who was filled with curiosity at the behaviour of the ladies, desired that Varnish would relate to him the story of Cynthia. To this the other answered, that as he had some business to transact next day, and as the lady, who was mistress of the house, was to go out of town in the morning, David would have an oppor-

opportunity of conversing with Cynthia, and learn her story from her own mouth.

This was readily complied with, for Varnish was all complaisance, and next morning as soon as the lady was gone, he took him to the house. They had not set long when Cynthia made her appearance in the same dejected manner she had been in the preceding day, and Varnish telling them, that he must leave them together for a few hours, set out under pretence of transacting business, but in reality to join some of his companions at the coffee-house.

This was a most favourable opportunity for David, who no sooner than he was gone, told her, that he was much affected with seeing her look so melancholy, and begged to hear her story, which she readily complied with.

She told him that her parents had lived in very reputable circumstances, but that it was their misfortune, that they would never study the tempers of their children, so as to bring them up in such a manner as to be happy in the world. That while she was very young, she discovered a strong inclination to reading, but instead of being encouraged in what was truly laudable, they constantly told her, that books were not a proper employment for one of her age and sex.

On the other hand, she had a brother, whose aversion to learning was such, that neither threatenings nor promises could make him in love with it. He hated to see a book, and yet for all that, nothing less would satisfy his parents than that of making him a scholar. She had also two sisters, whose age was not much different from her own, and although she loved them

in the most tender manner, yet they treated her with great cruelty. Some persons having commended her for her wit, she became obnoxious to her sisters ever after, and they took all opportunities of misrepresenting her to her parents. Nothing that she did could please them, for they could not bear the thoughts of having any person speak of her as superior to themselves. When she took a book in her hand, it was said that she would make a fine parson, and if she happened to make any observations on what she had read, she was only treated with ridicule.

Thus a blooming genius was by the pride and malevolence of her sisters attempted to be smothered in the bud, and that which ought to have been encouraged was pressed down with envy, and mangled by unrelenting persecution.

They had a young female cousin, who lived in the house with them, and although she seemed not to have any natural parts above the lowest of the human race, yet she had so much humility, that she seemed to dwell with pleasure on her own imperfections. This was such a conduct as ought to have endeared her to every person of real sensibility, but malice knows no bounds; it levels the most meritorious and guilty in one indiscriminate mass.

Cynthia always took her part, but that instead of being attended with any beneficial consequences, only exasperated her sisters the more against the poor orphan, whom they treated with every opprobrious mark of contempt. It was some pleasure, if it deserves such a name, for the two sisters to consider that their cousin was a fool, and as Cynthia had been by all her acquaintance repre-

represented as a wit at their expence, so they took care to join both together.

When Cynthia was about sixteen, she became acquainted with a young lady of her own age, who was extremely fond of reading, but this so alarmed her mother, that she began to fear that her daughter would draw circles and turn conjuror. At the same time the two sisters took every opportunity of ridiculing her upon making new friends, especially this young lady, who was esteemed by all who knew her.

In vain did she plead the merits of the young lady, for that only exasperated them the more; her learning was called pedantry; her wit affectation; her friendship hypocrisy; and upon the whole she was represented as one whom no person of good sense would spend one hour in conversing with, much less devote so much of their time to her company as Cynthia did.

When she was about seventeen, her mother died, by which she was left more at large to converse with her companion, from whom she received daily instructions, and gradually became acquainted with books. She was also in some measure freed from the persecution of her sisters, for as her father never concerned himself about domestic affairs, all the three sisters were now on an equal footing, none of them daring to plague him with any of their complaints.

One day after dinner her father told her, that if she would be a good girl, she should soon be married; upon which her sisters burst into a loud laugh, and asked which of her books would teach her to be a housewife. Cynthia, who had been long accustomed to their insolent taunts and
jeers

Jeers made no reply, but only told her father, she would first see and approve of the man who was designed for her husband, before she would consent to give him her hand.

This he readily consented to comply with, and next day brought a country gentleman to dinner, who was one of those mortals that are neither old nor young, tall or short, handsome or ugly. He said little or nothing during dinner, and when that was over, the father, with the sisters, retired one by one, leaving the stranger and Cynthia alone.

After some minutes spent in silence, he told her, that he doubted not but her father had informed her of the bargain agreed upon between them, and hoped she was willing to comply. To this she answered, that she knew of no goods her father had to dispose of, but if he had any, she had no business to interfere in their bargains.

This smart answer disconcerted the gentleman considerably, but recollecting himself, he told her, that he had seen her two or three times, though perhaps she had never seen him. That he intended to have an heir to his estate, and a person to take care of his family ; that there was good eating and drinking at his house, and in short, that although her father was not able to lay down two thousand pounds, yet he would condescend to take her.

This proposal was so different from all the notions Cynthia had formed of love, that she rose up, and making him a low courtsey, thanked him for his offer of employing her as his upper servant. She told him, that it was un-

undoubtedly very good natured in him to offer her victuals and drink, but wondered he had taken no notice of wages; and laughing heartily at his rustic simplicity, he got up and left the room, telling her, that he would acquaint her father, who no doubt would make her repent, for having treated him in such a manner.

For some weeks poor Cynthia was treated by her father in the most cruel manner, with all the reproaches that his malice could invent, in consequence of his scheme having miscarried; but the gentleman, who it seems was not very nice in his choice, married her second sister, and she took the other along with her. This gave Cynthia a temporary respite, for she was now like mistress of the house, and as her poor cousin had been long treated in the most despicable manner, she took her along with her wherever she went, and made her as happy as could be consistent with the nature of her circumstances, namely a dependancy, the most abject that human nature can be reduced to in this world.

But this sunshine of happiness did not last long, for the father of Cynthia in his anger had made a will, in which he had left his whole fortune to his two other daughters; and before he had time to revoke it, he was seized with a fit of apoplexy and died.

The news of his death brought the other daughters to town, and the will being opened, they exulted over their sister's affliction, by telling her, that there was no occasion for their father to leave her money, as her wit and great learning were sufficient to support her. Reduced to the lowest scene of misery that can be supported
with

with innocence, Cynthia gave a vent to her grief in tears, while her poor cousin said all she could to comfort her, and gave her a share of what little money she had about her.

Destitute of the protection of her relations, she was taken into the service of the lady already mentioned, and it was proposed that she should go abroad with her as a companion, a circumstance that pleased Cynthia the more, as her reading had induced her to wish for an opportunity of seeing foreign countries.

Accordingly they set out together to make the tour of Europe, as it is commonly called ; but here it must be remembered, that the brother of Cynthia already mentioned, had been whipped so often at school, that the violence of the chastisement threw him into a high consumption, of which he died, leaving behind him a lesson for all parents to copy after, namely, never to force the inclinations of their children, but leave them to chuse for themselves so as the employment is honest.

Cynthia notwithstanding the many hardships she had suffered in her youth, yet had so far by the help of books improved herself in the French language, that when she arrived in Paris, she was soon able to converse tolerably in it, a circumstance that was of no small service to her, as her lady was utterly unacquainted with it.

She had not been above two or three months with her lady, when she began to treat her as a poor needy creature, whose sole dependence was on her bounty, and who had taken her into her family as an object of charity. Every thing she did or said was complained of, nor could the
poor

poor creature assign the least reason for such a change in her conduct. She thought that if she had done any thing amiss, it was no more than reasonable to tell her of it, and not persecute her in such an unrelenting manner. Convinced of her own innocence, she would often repose herself in it; but as an antient naturalist says, *Nothing can effectually depress nature but death, for if she is shut out at the door, she will come in at the window.*

At last she began to impute the whole to her lady's love of tyranny, and although she was content to bear with many indignities that were daily offered her; yet at last her spirits began to sink under the load of her misery, and she gave herself up to the most melancholy reflections.

She was seldom summoned to attend her lady, but she was found in tears; and when she made her appearance, instead of being considered as an object of pity, she was treated with all the marks of ridicule, in a strange country, where she had not one person to sympathize with her.

The misery that Cynthia suffered while she remained at Paris was so intolerable, that she was glad to find that her lady intended to return to England; but upon her arrival in this land of liberty and freedom, new misfortunes attended her, as if she had been marked out to be the sport of fortune; to be ill treated by every one without giving them any offence, or acting inconsistent with her duty.

Her lady had a nephew, about seventeen years of age, who was heir to the title and estate of a noble earl; and no sooner had he seen Cynthia, than, in all the raptures of youthful passion, he fell

fell in love with her, and made her proposals of marriage. As her whole dependence was upon his aunt, she told him she could not comply with his request, without being guilty of treachery, a crime she would by no means have imputed to her. This refusal only inflamed his passions the more, and one day, while they were sitting together, her lady came into the room.

The young gentleman, out of complaisance to his aunt, retired ; but no sooner was he gone, than she demanded of Cynthia to know what business he had in her apartment. Cynthia, who had never told a lie, and could not dissemble on any consideration whatever, told her the whole truth ; not in the least imagining that his being in love with her could give any offence, especially as she had made no advances of that nature.

Nothing, however, could satisfy the lady ; she wrote to the earl, who sent for his nephew, in order that he should make the tour of Europe ; while poor Cynthia was persecuted more cruelly than ever, although she had done nothing to merit such treatment from any of her fellow-creatures.

She told him that she was determined not to bear with such slavery any longer, and begged that he would take her, in some manner, under his protection, so far as to procure her some honest employment. David told her that he would not offend her delicacy ; but if she would take lodgings, he would give her money to pay her rent and support her, but he had too much regard to her reputation to come and visit her. This was the most agreeable proposal that could
be

be made to Cynthia, but scarce had they done speaking, when the lady, who had changed her mind, came home, and entered the apartment. She flew into the most violent passion, and looking at David, said she believed that all the young fellows in London were going to frequent her house; that Cynthia must be extremely forward, otherwise she could not have the impudence to bring them there.

David, hearing these words, took his leave, and returned home in order to communicate his sentiments to his friend Varnish; but he being gone out, David went to bed with the most melancholy thoughts, reflecting on the poor unhappy Cynthia, who was condemned to be tormented and persecuted, for no other reason than that she was possessed of superior charms.

Next morning David went to visit her, and found her dissolved in tears: she told him that she had been so cruelly used by her lady the preceding night, that she would not remain any longer with her; and excused herself from accepting his proposal, as her lady would, from that circumstance, embrace the opportunity of ruining her character in the opinion of the world.

David told her, that nothing done by him should ever give her the least offence; he would not so much as come near her, and as soon as he could hear of a place he would give her notice of it. This proposal was so reasonable that she could not refuse to comply with it, and therefore it was agreed, that when David had taken her a lodging, he should send her notice by a woman to what place she was to remove.

In the evening the lady came home, and finding that David had been there, poured out a load of abuse upon poor Cynthia, who made no other answer but that she was resolved, from that moment, to leave her service. Here she was again taxed with ingratitude, and called by a thousand opprobrious names. All this was patiently borne by Cynthia, who said not one word more; but suffered her lady to rail on, till it was time to go to bed.

In the morning when Cynthia arose, she told her lady that she was to remove immediately from her house, and David's messenger arriving at the same time, she set out with her to her new lodgings. But she had not been long there, when she reflected on her unhappy circumstances, and resolved to remove into the country, to reside with her cousin, who had been some time settled there along with her mother, and whom she had always esteemed as a person of the utmost benevolence. David, although uneasy to part with her, yet would not lay any restraint on her inclinations; and therefore, as she had nothing to bear her expences, he pressed her to accept of some money.

Soon after she was gone David left Varnish, and having dressed himself in a mean habit, took a lodging in an obscure part of the town, among the lower class of people, to try what he could learn from their characters. He had seen so much of high life, with all its insincerity, that he thought to meet with simplicity among those of a lower rank. But how great was his disappointment, when he found that the same views
operated

operated among the high and the low, only under different forms.

One evening as he was sitting in his chamber musing on these things, he heard a female voice, in the room above him, scolding in the most violent manner. Curiosity prompted him to go up stairs, when, to his great surprize, he found a young man lying on a parcel of rags, seemingly in the agonies of death. On one side of him sat a young woman, in an old silk gown, which had just as much of its former remains about it, as to shew that it had been once new. She was drowned in tears, while the landlady stood over them, swearing in the most profane manner that she would have her money; for she did not understand what business people had to come into other people's houses, without taking care to pay their way.

The young woman begged, with tears, that she would be silent, and not disturb the poor dying creature, as she was sure she should one day have it in her power to pay her. To this the brutish landlady replied, that she would have her money; that she did not care whether the fellow died or lived; and as to the story of his being her brother, she did not believe one word of it.

David, who needed no persuasions to induce him to sympathize with the wretched, asked the landlady if it was possible for any human creature to talk in that manner to one overwhelmed in distress, and sinking under the decay of nature; but, without waiting for an answer, told her that he would pay the money. This made her perfectly easy, and dropping a low courtesy, she told him that nobody could blame her for

asking for what was her own ; but as he had promised to pay her she was satisfied, and then withdrew.

Upon the landlady's leaving the room, the young woman stared at David, for some time, in such a frantic manner, that may be felt but cannot be expressed ; till at last falling down on her knees, she implored every blessing from heaven upon him. He desired her to compose herself, and asked what she and her brother would have to eat or drink. The poor creature, drowned in tears, told him that her dying brother had not tasted any thing that day, and that she thought a glass of wine and a biscuit would help, in some measure, to alleviate his misery.

She had no sooner spoke the word, than David ran down stairs and ordered the landlady to get what they wanted, and returning with it, the young woman, with some difficulty, got the poor afflicted creature to take a mouthful of the biscuit and drink a glass of wine. Sometimes he would look in the most languishing manner on his sister, and then turn his eyes to David with tears of gratitude ; till having recovered himself a little, he said, " O Sir, I hope I shall
 " live to make you some recompence for this
 " unmerited kindness in the extremity of dis-
 " tress."

His sister, who had hitherto concealed as much as possible the emotions of her grief, no sooner heard her brother speak than she burst into tears, which David seeing, told her that such sort of grief was utterly unnecessary, and even hurtful to her brother. He added, that he would send for a chair to convey him to a place where he
 would

would be properly taken care of ; for although he had lodgings on the first floor, yet he imagined that they would not chuse to remain any longer in the house of a woman who had used them in such an inhuman manner.

The two poor young creatures were too much lost in gratitude for the generous kindness of David, to be able to make any reply ; upon which David went out, and took them a decent lodging. He then returned with two chairs, and having paid off the landlady, removed along with them. When they came to the place, they were so much fatigued that they were obliged to be put to their different beds, while something warm was ordered to be got ready for their refreshment. But the meanness of their appearance was such, that it frightened the people in the house ; nor would they promise to attend them, till David pulled out a handful of money, which convinced them that he was rich ; for with these sort of people money is as much esteemed as among the great.

The next thing that David did was to send for a physician, in order if possible to restore the poor young creatures to health and strength, for as he had begun a good work he was determined to go through with it. When the doctor arrived and had examined his patients, he found them very bad indeed ; but told David that nothing should be wanting on his part, to make up proper prescriptions for them, and that there might yet be some hopes of their recovery.

David took care to order every thing that was necessary for them, and having seen them take their medicines according to the doctor's order,

he left them to the care of proper persons, and retired to his chamber; where he spent the greatest part of the night in ruminating on this strange adventure. He could not imagine how two young creatures should be reduced to such extremity of distress, and, from the whole of their behaviour, he had reason to believe that their education was far above that of the vulgar.

When he got up the next morning he went immediately to visit them, and was informed that they were both fast asleep; a circumstance that gave him the greatest pleasure, because he began to hope that they were both in a fair way of recovery. He went out and bought cloaths for them, so as to enable them to appear in a decent manner; and upon his return, the young man, who had just then awoke, told him he had been sent from heaven to work miracles in his favour. He added, that the difference of his situation for only one night, had made him forget all his sufferings, and that he believed his poor sister was not then awake.

David, who could not bear to leave him one moment in suspense, told him that he had bought cloaths for them, and that those designed for his sister were sent into her apartment by the maid. What the poor young man felt on hearing of such an act of benevolence from a stranger, is left to the reader to judge, but if he has any feeling he will drop a tear with him.

When the young woman arose, and had dressed herself in the cloaths sent her by David, she went to see her brother, who, after a good night's rest, had also been able to get up. She appeared pale, which was not to be wondered at, when

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we consider her sufferings; but for all that she was extremely handsome, and had every part of beauty about her, except what she had been deprived of by the hardships she had laboured under. She was all affability and good-nature; the outlines of something of a more than ordinary nature shone through every part of her conduct; nor could distress itself overthrow merit.

David was so pleased to see that they were daily recovering, that he took every opportunity of being in their company, and blessed the happy moment that first brought him acquainted with them.

The young woman, when her brother was retired to enjoy a little rest, would often lament to David, that they should be supported solely by his benevolence; but he always checked her, by putting her in mind that he had done no more than what was his duty to his fellow-creature. Indeed he began to feel for Camilla (for that was the name of the young woman) in a more tender manner than that of common friendship. It is true Cynthia had made some impression on his heart, but it was not lasting, because he considered her as attached to another; and therefore becoming every day more fond of Camilla, he begged to hear her story, which one evening, after much intreaty, she told him, in words to the following purpose.

She told him that her father was a country gentleman, whose estate, although small, was yet independent, and that her mother was the admiration of all who knew her. That she and her brother were brought up with the greatest tenderness, and that Valentine (for that was her

brother's name) was sent to a public school when he was about nine years of age, herself being but one year younger.

He had not been long at school, where he made great proficiency, when an accident happened that made a considerable alteration in their little family, and this was no other than a hurt the mother got in her foot, which, turning to a mortification, put an end to her life. Thus Camilla lost the best of parents, but still she had a father, who took every possible care to give her a virtuous and religious education, suitable to the rank of life in which she might have reason to hope one day to act.

In the mean time her brother remained at school, and wrote to his father and sister every week in the most regular manner; and as Camilla found that he made more demands on his father for money, than what the old gentleman was willing to comply with, she always took care to send him the greatest part of her pocket expences, without taking any notice either to him or her father from whom it came.

This was a state of happiness too great to last long, and like every thing in the ordinary course of life, a change soon took place. The father of Camilla, though well advanced in years, resolved on a second marriage with a young lady whose fortune was small, and whose education had been, like that of many other females, far above her rank, or any expectations she had reason to hope for.

Accordingly the marriage took place after a few weeks courtship; but poor Camilla, as well as her brother, soon experienced a shocking reverse

verse of fortune. The step-mother did every thing she could to turn the mind of her husband against his children, for no other reason but that he was fond of them, and loved them in the most tender manner; but who can resist the temptations of a wife, especially when she is young and her husband old.

She was so fond of places of public diversion, that in order to support her extravagance, she would often bring in false bills to her husband, and at the same time took care that neither Valentine nor Camilla should be indulged with any pocket-money. The servants were commanded to treat the young ones with disrespect, and if at any time they made the least complaint, or dropped an unguarded expression, it was magnified into a crime, and no pity was shewn to the pretended delinquents. Thus a house that used to be the seat of peace and hospitality, became an emblem of hell; while the father, who was deluded by the artful cunning of his wife, seemed not to take any notice of it, but looked upon every thing with approbation that had been done by his spouse.

The distressed Camilla had no comfort now left but in the company of her brother, who still treated her with the utmost tenderness, and both sympathised with each other in their distress. The young gentleman had something of a calmness and solidity about him, that enabled him to bear his afflictions with resignation, and he endeavoured to inspire his sister with the same sentiments, but this was not such an easy task as he imagined; for the poor young creature was so persecuted by her unrelenting step-mother, that life itself be-

came as it were a burden, and she began to sink under the load of her misery.

The continual extravagance of this step-mother kept pace with her cruelty, and her husband was, in consequence thereof, reduced to the greatest hardships. She had in a manner left him nothing; for all her requests, let them be of ever so extravagant a nature, were complied with, while it was in his power. One day his daughter taking notice of his affliction, guessed the real cause, and went and borrowed a small matter from a friend, and desired him to accept of it. This money was immediately given to the step-mother, and almost as soon spent; but when she learned that it come from Camilla, her pride took the alarm, and she treated her with more cruelty than ever.

This was so provoking to Camilla, that she could bear it no longer; but told her step-mother that her conduct was such, that it would ruin both her and her husband. Just at that instant the husband came in, and seeing his wife in an agony of rage, demanded to know what was the matter; declaring, at the same time, that he would not forgive his own children, if they had used her with any marks of disrespect. This was what the artful insinuating step-mother wanted, and telling her husband what his daughter had said, he flew into a violent rage, and struck Camilla a severe blow, which brought her to the ground.

At that instant her brother entered the room, and not knowing what to do amidst the variety of contending passions, ran for water, and threw a little in her face, by which she was soon restored

to her senses. The poor infatuated husband relented when he saw his daughter laid on the bed by her brother, but his wife hurried him out of the room, and did every thing in her power to irritate his passions against her more than ever.

Valentine no sooner saw his father go out of the room, than he threatened to go and demand of the step-mother what reason she had for treating his sister in such a manner, by stirring up her father against her ; but Camilla, who dreaded the consequences, begged that he would not encrease her misery, as she was already sufficiently wretched.

The good-natured brother was so kindly condescending as to comply with the request of his sister, and sitting down beside her, she told him that as her poor father's passion for this unworthy creature was beyond all bounds, she was determined to remove from a house where her life was one continued scene of misery, and although destitute, yet trust to the world and the goodness of divine providence. Valentine declared, that wherever she went he would accompany her, and do every thing to support her ; for his life was no longer of any value if she was unhappy.

Accordingly they both left the house, and sought protection from an old aunt, who had always treated them with great kindness. The gentlewoman told them, that if they were willing to have the quarrel made up, she would try what she could do, for she was sure it had been only some passionate words, as she knew the step-mother to be a most excellent woman. They told her, that as to making up the quarrel it was

impossible, but she said no more, resolving to take her own way.

Next morning she went out, but had not been long gone, when she returned with fury in her eyes, and told them that she wondered how they could be so wicked as to invent such a story, which she knew to be false; adding, at the same time, that it was a shame to see brother and sister going about in the manner they did, and that it would bring a scandal on all those who encouraged them.

The two poor young creatures stood staring at each other, till their aunt had run herself out of breath with talking, and then they begged to know what they had been guilty of. She told them that she had been to enquire at their father's, and to try if she could not make up the breach that happened in the family, but found it was impossible; for it was declared to her that they lived together in incest, a crime that would bring down the vengeance of heaven upon them. She then ordered them both out of her house, and as they had but one guinea between them, and as the story of their supposed crime had flown like the swiftest lightning among all their friends and relations, no one was found who would admit them into their houses.

Destitute therefore, and among strangers, they took a lodging in that wretched house where David found them; but they had not been long there when Valentine was taken ill with a most violent fever, and all their money being spent, they were reduced to the last degree of wretchedness.

The

The deplorable condition which her brother was in, made Camilla, who loved him tenderly, think of some means to alleviate his distress, and for that purpose went to solicit charity from some gentlemen celebrated for their benevolence; but this did not succeed, for although some of them did give her a trifle, yet she found that it was in vain to make a second application.

Driven to the last stage of wretchedness, she disguised herself one evening, and took her stand at the end of a street, thinking that some charitable people might be induced to give her a trifle; but she had not been long there, when two or three beggars came up and drove her away, telling her that she had no right to come into their district, without first obtaining their consent and permission for that purpose.

At last reduced to the want of all the necessities of life, their landlady insisted on sending for the proper officers to take them to the workhouse, or to Bridewell, as the justice should think proper in his great wisdom; and she being extremely clamorous, a poor woman passing by the door asked what was the matter, and being shewn up to the garret where they lay, compassion for their distress seized her mind, and altho' she had but six-pence in her pocket she freely gave them it, with a few biscuits which she intended to have taken home to her children.

Camilla had done every thing she could to put off the inhuman landlady from her horrid purpose of turning her afflicted brother out of doors, but all in vain; and had it not been for David, they would that night have lodged in the street or the workhouse.

David was shocked at this narrative, especially when he considered that he had lodged so long in the house without knowing their distress, or what a monster the landlady was.

The next conversation that took place was of a very different nature, for David having mentioned the story of Cynthia, Camilla recollected that she was her former companion, with whom she had spent many agreeable days.

Valentine, who was present, no sooner heard the name of Cynthia mentioned, than he changed colour several times, and at last declared to David, that she had been long the sole object of his affections. He was eager to know her story, and as soon as he heard that she was gone into the country, he recollected where it was that his relations lived, and proposed to his sister to write to her. In all this he was encouraged by David, who told him nothing should be wanting on his part to promote his suit, and make him completely happy in the enjoyment of his charmer.

It seems that when Cynthia arrived in the country, she found that her relation had been dead about a month, and had left her all she had which did not exceed thirty pounds; but they, so far from giving her any real pleasure, only increased her afflictions, and endeared her friend to her more than ever. Not chusing to remain any longer in the place where her faithful friend was no more, she set out for London, expecting that the change of place would give some ease to her afflicted mind, for she bewailed the loss of this good creature as if she had been a parent.

In consequence of that resolution she took a place in the stage, along with three gentlemen
whom

whom she had never seen before. As the coach set out before it was light, she could not discover her fellow-travellers till towards morning, when one of the gentlemen, who seemed to be a very grave person, made some beautiful remarks on the infinite goodness and wisdom of God in the works of creation, which to Cynthia appeared little inferior to Milton's morning hymn.

The two other gentlemen, who had continued groaning and yawning all the time that the grave gentleman spoke, seemed to consider every thing advanced by him as the dullest stuff they had ever heard. At last one of them attempting to take Cynthia by the hand, told the grave gentleman that a fine girl was preferable a thousand times to all the fancied beauties he had been decanting on. Cynthia could not help making some observations on the characters and appearances of her fellow-travellers. The grave gentleman, whose discourse had given her so much pleasure, was dressed in a neat decent manner, which seemed to bespeak a tranquillity of soul to which many in this world are strangers, for want of thinking. The gentleman who sat next him had cloaths on, which although originally good, had yet been so bespattered with dirt, that he exhibited the figure of a perfect drunkard, who had been reeling about two or three nights in the streets. The other gentleman, and the same who had attempted to lay hold of Cynthia's hand, had on a suit of fine laced cloaths, his hair was done up in papers, and upon the whole seemed to be a perfect *beau*.

Upon their arrival at the first stage, where they were to breakfast, the two last-mentioned gentlemen

tllemen seemed extremely curious to find out the character of the third, and it was not long before they learned that he was a clergyman, and that he was well known in that neighbourhood. It is necessary at the same time to observe, that the drunkard was a professed atheist, and the beau was of no religion at all.

When breakfast was over, our travellers got into the coach, and the atheist, who intended to make himself merry at the expence of the clergyman, began with ridiculing revealed religion. To this the reverend gentleman answered, that nothing in the world was more easy than to find fault, especially when it was done by making positive assertions, without producing proper evidence. That all the arguments brought against Christianity had been refuted over and again, and that nothing new could be advanced on the subject.

He was next attacked by the beau, who threw out a number of second-hand jests, taken from the writings of loose authors; but the clergyman told him, that could not be called his own that had been quoted a thousand times before. This put the two gentlemen to silence, who had not one argument to advance, and in that manner they spent the remainder of the day.

The atheist, who began to have an extreme good opinion of Cynthia, or rather as one whom he imagined he could seduce, resolved to find out an opportunity of speaking to her alone, a circumstance she was not aware of; for it being a fine evening, she slipped out at a back door, and walking into the garden behind the inn, sat herself down in an arbour. Here she gave a
loose

loose to her contemplations on her unhappy fate, wondering how providence should leave her to be the mock and sport of an injurious world.

She was so lost in these things, that the atheist, who had drank his companion asleep, came and sat down by her before she so much as perceived him. He did not leave her long in uncertainty who he was ; but telling her he was deeply enamoured of her charms, wondered how a woman of her good sense could be confined down to form, when love was the only cement of happiness.

Cynthia would have retired, but he swore that she should not stir till he had finished his story ; and then he went on in a long incoherent discourse, without either sense or meaning, on the happiness that attended those who follow the bent of their own inclinations.

Cynthia told him that she could not pretend to dispute with a person of his great learning ; but he must excuse her, when she told him, that were she to follow her own inclinations in every case, she could not pretend to answer for what might be the consequences ; for she was afraid that inclinations themselves were but weak things, unless under the guidance of sober reason to restrain them.

This conversation being ended, Cynthia, who had behaved with great prudence and modesty, took her leave, while the atheist began to doubt the truth of his own principles, or rather what he wished for instead of believing.

Next morning the coach set out ; but as the atheist and the beau had made themselves drunk the night before, they slept all the way till they
came

came to the next inn, while the clergyman and Cynthia conversed together on the most rational and entertaining subjects.

When they had got near the inn, the postilion overturned the coach, but no danger happened to any of the passengers except the atheist, who had his leg broke. The clergyman, in the most humane manner, went and procured him a surgeon; offering at the same time, if he wanted any money, to defray the whole expence. The beau was not to go any farther, and as they were now within about sixteen miles of London, Cynthia and the clergyman continued on their journey.

This was an opportunity that the clergyman waited for, and after some time spent in silence, he began to talk of love in the most rational as well as the most elevated manner, such as could not offend the ears of modesty itself. At last he declared that he was really enamoured with her, that she had captivated his heart, and begged to know what part of the town she resided in, that he might come and visit her as a lover. Cynthia, who had hitherto imagined that he was a married gentleman, told him that she was infinitely obliged to him for his kind offer, but for the present she was obliged to decline it, for reasons that she was not at liberty to disclose.

She delivered herself with such an air of unaffected sincerity, that the clergyman, who had no deceit in himself, did not urge her any further, and a few hours brought them to town, where they separated in the most affectionate manner, so far as was consistent with real virtue and true decorum, from which we sincerely wish none of
our

our younger readers may ever deviate. Cynthia took lodgings, where we will leave her for some time, and return to David and the two young creatures, whom he had rescued from misery.

The next morning after David had informed Camilla and her brother what he knew of Cynthia, they seemed both to be sunk in the deepest melancholy; and as he imputed it to their modesty in being dependent on him, he told them not to make themselves in the least uneasy, as all he had was at their service, rather than they should be again reduced to want. This again overwhelmed them with tears of gratitude which they could not conceal; but after some few minutes had passed in this manner, they set down together very agreeably. Valentine remained several days disconsolate for not hearing from Cynthia, and the more so as he had directed his letter to her in a proper manner; but one day as David was walking through Westminster, he thought he heard a female voice call him by his name. He immediately turned round to see from whence the voice came, and looking up he saw Cynthia looking out of the window. He immediately went into the house, and was shewn into Cynthia's room, who received him in the most grateful manner, telling him at the same time, that her relation, whom she went to in the country was dead, which was the reason why she had returned to town.

He intimated to her as much as he could, consistent with decorum, concerning Camilla and her brother, upon which she asked him a thousand questions, but at the same time took care to conceal her passion for Valentine, nor did she
mention

mention his name so often as that of his sister's. David then related to her their whole story, concealing only such parts as might seem to exalt his own character, and vindicated Camilla in such a manner from the aspersions that had been thrown upon her by her step-mother, that Cynthia plainly saw he was in love. This circumstance gave her the greatest happiness, for she loved Camilla to such a degree, that she would have done any thing rather than not promote her interest. She launched out in the most lavish encomiums on her many perfections, and told him she had known and loved her from her infancy, and that there was not in the world a more amiable creature than she.

David then told her, that as she had no engagements in the house where she then was, and as there was room in the same house where he and her friends lodged, she might as well remove to it, for the people were honest, and the place was creditable. She had already seen so much of this young gentleman's benevolence and goodness of heart, that she could not deny him any thing. She knew she would be under a generous protector, and that she would have an opportunity of seeing her long lost Camilla.

Accordingly having paid off her lodgings, and given a small present, such as she could afford to the servant, she packed up her cloaths, which being put into a hackney coach, David and she set off together, with hearts so much elated with joy, as none but the virtuous can feel.

It is impossible to express the joy and surprize that took place in the countenances of Valentine,
Camilla

Camilla, and Cynthia, when they met each other. All the tender emotions took place in their souls, that had distinguished them in their younger years from the rest of their companions. Friendship and love were so blended together that it was difficult to say which had the pre-eminence, or which was most predominant in their minds. That evening, and the two next days, were spent in giving each other an account of their different adventures, the many afflictions they had suffered, and in what manner they had all three been so generously relieved, and humanely supplied by David, whose innate modesty was put to the blush, to hear himself spoken of in such exalted strains, although he was conscious at the same time that he enjoyed the smiles of self-approbation.

This conversation being over, and our friends reconciled to each other in a social manner, it was proposed that they should call a coach, and set out to view the different scenes of life in the metropolis; for although David was well acquainted with most of them, yet the others were little better than strangers. His design was to make them acquainted with human life, to show them the characters of men, not in real speculation, but in practice, the only means by which pretensions are known from reality, and virtue from vice. In a word, the infallible microscopic glass that strips every thing of assumed appearances, and shows men in their natural colours.

The coach being called, they began their journey through the court end of the town, but there they saw little besides some of the footmen, who had been up the greatest part of the night, getting

ting drunk at the ale-houses, because their masters had done so the night before. As for the great personages of both sexes, they were just gone to bed, for with them day is night, and night is day.

From thence they proceeded to Covent-Garden, where they saw a parcel of fellows genteelly dressed, who had been spending the night in all manner of debauchery. They were reeling with the fumes of liquor, which is sure to pall upon the appetite, and in the end defeat its own intention. They did not offer any injury to our travellers, but with respect to themselves they were in every sense truly ridiculous. They were like creatures who live without thought, or in other words, beasts in human shape.

David seeing the door of a shop open, asked the master, who was scraping the pavement, if it was not necessary that some person should conduct these unfortunate gentlemen home. To this the gentleman, or rather the shop keeper answered, that there was no necessity for it, for there was not scarce a morning in the circle of the whole year that they did not meat with such company at that part of the town, and yet he did not hear that any accidents ever happened to them. They were so accustomed to that dissipated, or rather debauched way of life, that they soon put a period to their own existence, without being obliged to provoke any one in the streets to knock them down.

David was curious to know what the shop-keeper could tell him concerning them, but all the answer he received was, that some of them were young heirs, who were spending more money

ney than their parents or guardians allowed them for pocket expences; others were such as were getting into debt with their creditors, so as to be cleared by a commission of bankruptcy; and others were such as had ruined their families by their extravagances, and now supported themselves by sharpening, and tricking all those who were weak enough to trust them.

It was in vain to ask any more questions of a man, who like some of his betters took pleasure in nothing so much as that of traducing the characters of his fellow creatures, so that David ordered the coach to drive on. For some time our travellers remained silent, till at last Cynthia asked them, what they were all so thoughtful about? For her own part she said, that she had been attentively considering the shops as she passed, and what surprized her the most of all was that those who dealt in the necessaries of life were generally poor, whereas those who traded only in useless superfluities made a grand appearance. But upon mature deliberation, she said, her surprize vanished, when she considered the nature of society, for unless what we call property was equally divided, one half of the world without these superfluities would be miserable. A lady of fashion goes home with her casket of jewels, while the tradesman, from whom she bought them, with his family and working people, are making merry at the expence of her folly.

Camilla said that her mind had been full of the most tormenting thoughts as she passed along, especially when she considered, that in many of the houses by which they passed, sons and daughters

ters might be groaning under the cruel persecutions of step-mothers ; and she concluded by blessing God, that she had been delivered from such a state of bondage.

David having applauded Camilla for her devout and humane sentiments, proceeded to deliver his own. He said he had been musing on the conduct of the shop-keeper in Covent-Garden, who could take so much pleasure in finding fault with his neighbours, and yet never repeated any that he had been guilty of himself. Cynthia answered, that it was very possible the shop-keeper might be a good man, but there was a strange propensity in some people to speak ill of their neighbours ; nay, even to traduce the characters of them with whom they were utterly unacquainted. A love of talking (she said) naturally led to scandal, and turning to Valentine, asked his opinion. Valentine answered, that he had been revolving in his mind, the unhappy state of that man, who was in love with a woman, and at the same time could not, consistent with the dictates either of honour or conscience, marry her without a fortune to support her. While he spoke these words, he fastened his eyes on Cynthia, who not making any reply, blushed in such an expressive manner as left no doubt who was the object of her affections.

In this manner they continued discoursing together for some time, till David saw a woman sitting behind a shop counter, sobbing in the most pitiful manner. He proposed that they should go into the shop, under pretence of buying some trifling article, in order if possible to find out the

the cause of her sorrow, for they were all sensibly touched with it.

David told her he was sorry to see her in tears, and that he was willing to give her all the comfort in his power; but she seemed extremely sorry to let him into any of the particulars. However, she at last consented, and told him, that her husband was one of the most cruel men in the world, and had used her in a shocking manner indeed. She said he had not beat her, but what in her opinion was a thousand times worse, was that her husband had received some money, and like a fool had gone to pay his debts with it, instead of giving it to her, and her daughter, to purchase some fine cloaths.

“ There is neighbour Bilkim (said she) pointing to a fine dressed woman in a shop over the way, she can have whatever she pleases, and I am sure her husband is more in debt than mine. Besides, a man should mind his wife and children before he pays his money to strangers. There was but the other day I wanted a new silk gown, and he refused to let me have it, telling me at the same time, that he was obliged to pay away his money to those to whom he was indebted.”

Cynthia burst into an immoderate laughter, which irritated the woman so much that she flew into a most violent passion, and our travellers afraid lest she should vent her fury upon them, took shelter in the coach. Cynthia said, that she was not in the least surpris'd at the scene they had been witness to, for the old woman in the shop was not so fond of fine cloaths, as she was envious against such of her neighbours as made a better appearance than herself. She could have
been

content to put up with her old silk gowns, had it not been for the conduct of her neighbour, who dressed much finer; and rather than she would not be on an equal footing with her, she would have seen her husband in a gaol. The rest of the company said but little, only David took notice that he was surprized how any rational creatures could prefer the empty gaudy show and blandishments of dress, before that solid peace of mind which arises from a consciousness of having with integrity discharged those obligations, which by the laws of society they were bound to comply with.

The rest of the day was spent in this philosophic innocent manner. Thousands of objects presented themselves to their view, and as many observations were made upon them. In one place they beheld characters of a mixed nature, in others some that were extremely bad, but no where did they meet with one that was not tainted with some imperfection. In the evening they returned home, and having eaten a frugal supper, and conversed on the occurrences of the day, they retired to rest, in order to meditate upon them.

Cynthia, who had long been treated in the most cruel manner, both by her parents and the lady whose companion she was, could seldom sleep sound, but was much addicted to startings in her bed, while her mind was filled with the most uneasy reflections. In this manner, her usual horrors awakened her about midnight, and as she could not compose herself, she stole into Camilla's chamber, not doubting but she would give her some consolation. Camilla happening to be asleep, Cynthia did not chuse to awake her, but
re-

returned to her own apartment, and in her way thither, she saw a young lady, whom she thought she knew. She asked the woman, who attended her, who she was, but all the answer she received was, that she believed she was a French woman, her name was Isabella; and no sooner did Cynthia hear it mentioned, than she recollected, that she was sister to the marquis de Stainville, whom she had long known at Paris, but she could not conceive by what means she had come to England.

Next morning at breakfast Cynthia told the company what she had discovered, and signified her intention of waiting on her, but as there seemed to be a settled melancholy in her countenance, she was afraid that she would not admit her. David was sure, he said, that some grievous misfortune had happened to her, and therefore he begged that Cynthia would visit her, and ask her whether there was any thing in his power could be done for her assistance in her present unhappy condition.

Cynthia had no objection to David's proposal, and therefore having sent in her name to the young lady, was introduced, and entertained in the most engaging and affectionate manner. It was with much difficulty that she could prevail on her, to favour her with her company, but at last she complied; and David, who longed for an opportunity of shewing her an instance of his benevolence, begged to be favoured with her story; this she readily complied with, and delivered herself in words to following import.

She told them that she had been brought up in a nunnery from her infancy, in the most innocent amusement, till she was about fourteen years

of age, but did not learn much more than what is common. She was then taken home to her father, and placed in company with a young lady, whose name was Julia, to whom she became endeared by a natural sympathy of disposition. She had not been long at home when a gentleman was introduced by her father as a lover, and she was desired to receive his addresses. This struck her so much, that she went to consult Julia, who was at all times ready to give her the best advice. But how great was her surprize, when she saw her companion turn pale at the mentioning the gentleman's name. She fainted away, nor could she be recovered till Cynthia called for a glass of water. The discourse turned upon indifferent subjects when the young lady recovered, and Isabella having some thoughts of what was the real cause, did not mention his name any further, lest it should occasion the same agitation in her mind. As soon as Isabella was alone, she began to reflect on the behaviour of Julia, and seemed convinced in her own mind, that an accomplished girl of her good sense, and many other accomplishments could not have shewn such a behaviour, unless she had been previously engaged to the man, who seemed to be the cause of all this uneasiness.

From this time Julia seemed always anxious to be by herself, and when Isabella happened to be in her company, she was constantly filled with the deepest melancholy. At last Isabella asked her the cause of her melancholy, and begged that she would tell her, in order that she might have it in her power to administer her all the consolation she could. The poor afflicted Julia was now drowned in tears, all the tender emotions of her

her soul flowed into her countenance, and clasping Isabella in her arms, told her she was born to be the most unhappy creature in the world. She then told her, that the gentleman, who had been introduced to her as a lover, was Monsieur le Buiffon ; that she had first met him in the public gardens, where he took notice of her, and desired to be admitted into her company. The tender scenes that ensued were such as may be comprehended by lovers, but Julia not chusing to proceed any further, told Isabella, that although she sincerely loved the gentleman, yet she would give up all pretensions to him if that would in the least contribute towards making her happy, for she was now resolved to give herself up to despair.

Isabella had too much good nature not to sympathize with her friend, and therefore used her utmost endeavours to bring about the match. At last it took place, and thus Isabella gave such a proof of her self-denial, as is seldom to be met with among females.

Julia now thought herself extremely happy, but that happiness did not last long. Her husband never loved her any further than her importunities wrought upon his different passions, and therefore soon after their marriage, a cold indifference took place. It is true he treated her with a formal civility, but that was no way suitable to her inclinations ; she thought that she must still be an object of love, without considering that she had never been so. She soon after became an object of his hatred, and that being more than she was able to bear, she sunk under the load of her affliction, and paid the debt of nature, regretted.

by her friends, but unpitied by her husband. It is impossible to express the grief that Isabella felt for the loss of her friend, and the usage she had met with, induced her to resolve never after to hearken to any proposals of marriage, because she imagined that all men were alike.

About this time her brother returned from school, where he had acquired a perfect knowledge of useful as well as polite literature, and although he had not seen his sister since she was a child, yet a natural sympathy soon discovered itself in all their actions. They loved each other with the most expressive tenderness, and their whole time was spent in the most innocent and rational amusements.

Isabella now thought herself extremely happy, but that happiness was of too transitory a nature to last long, for one evening as her father was returning from Paris to his country seat, he fell, and received such a violent bruise, that it put an end to his life. This was a shock that Isabella could not have born with any degree of fortitude, had not her brother, now the marquis de Stainville, said every thing he could to reconcile her to the dispensations of divine providence. This brought her mind into a state of tranquillity, and her brother took every opportunity to make her time as agreeable as possible.

One evening sitting together in their usual manner, her brother told her, that when he was at school he contracted an acquaintance with the Chevalier Dumont, a young gentleman endowed with every accomplishment. They were both so fond of their studies, that they were called book worms by the rest of the scholars, and when they
went

went to the academy, in order to learn the military art, they became acquainted with one Monsieur Le Neuf, a young gentleman, whose father was so penurious, that he would not allow him so much pocket money as would enable him to appear like a gentleman.

This conduct of his father's put him upon many comical stratagems of getting money, and he lost no opportunity of insinuating himself into the company of those young gentlemen, whose parents behaved to them more generous than his own. He saw that the young Marquis de Stainville was well supplied with money, and therefore in order to procure some of it, he endeavoured to foment a quarrel between him and Dumont.

In the same school was a boy, whose voice was so like that of Dumont, that few could distinguish the difference. This boy having been tutored by Le Neuf, was one day taken into his chamber, where it was impossible the marquis should not hear him. A violent, though only an artificial dispute took place between them, which being overheard by the marquis, he went immediately to Le Neuf's door, not doubting but he would find Dumont there, for the boy had so imitated his voice, that he really believed it was he.

Le Neuf no sooner heard him knock, than he sent the boy out by a back door, and then opened the door to let him in. In vain did the marquis look for Dumont, and being told by his friend Le Neuf, that whatever conversation had passed between them, he hoped that no bad consequences would flow from it; he flew into the

most violent passion, insisting that he would have that satisfaction which every gentleman had a right to expect. The marquis was so much enraged, that without speaking one word, he ran down stairs in order if possible to find the much injured Dumont, and accordingly met him at the end of the next street. He instantly drew his sword, and challenged Dumont to fight him; but that young gentleman, with a noble presence of mind, desired him to be cool, till such time as he knew the reason why he was offended with him. The marquis, however, called him by all the opprobrious name he could think of, but still Dumont remained quiet, nor could the utmost provocation make him draw his sword, while his conscience convinced him that he was innocent; a noble example for youth to copy after.

The marquis, who was now enraged to the utmost, declared that he should fight him; upon which Dumont told him, that he was not afraid to fight, and if the marquis insisted on it he was willing. This for some time seemed to bring the marquis into some degree of reason, and then he told his friend what conversation he had overheard. Dumont was so much confounded, that he knew not what to say; he saw they had been imposed on, and he resolved to find out the truth. They walked home together to their chambers, but every word that Dumont uttered, confirmed the marquis that he was the person whom he heard conversing with Le Neuf in his chamber.

When they came home, Dumont asked the impostor Le Neuf how he could in so base a manner impose upon him, as to make his friend
his

his enemy, but not receiving any satisfactory answer, he took the marquis aside, and told him that he would leave nothing undone to clear up the whole mystery. Le Neuf went every evening to walk in a solitary grove near the town, and Dumont embracing that opportunity, followed him at a small distance, till he came to the middle of the grove, when he laid hold of his collar, and swore he would stab him dead, unless he discovered who it was that had personated him in the room.

The poor guilty pusillanimous wretch had not power to draw his sword, but falling on his knees, begged his life in the most abject manner. The mean wretch was obliged to comply, and then Dumont took him to the marquis, so that the whole mystery was unravelled. Le Neuf's shame was published to the world, in order to save the characters of our young gentlemen, and in consequence thereof he was obliged to remove from the academy. The Marquis told her that he had left Dumont at the academy, and he spoke so often in favour of that young gentleman, that she began to conceive a passion for him, although she had never yet seen him. While the brother and sister were diverting themselves in this manner, in the most pleasant way that possibly could be thought of, the marquis fell in love with a young lady whose name was Doriménio, and who was the daughter of a very great gentleman that lived in the same neighbourhood.

The estate in which the marquis was in possession of was so affluent, that few persons, even of the highest ranks in life, would have been ashamed to match their daughters with him, and

therefore the gentleman who was guardian to Doriménio sent him a letter, desiring to see and converse with him, intimating at the same time that he had no objections to the match. In consequence of this invitation he went to the place, and, after a few formal ceremonies, they were married, for such was the passion of the marquis, that, had he not got possession of his more than lovely charmer, he thought he should have been miserable for ever, nor would it have been in the power of any earthly object to give him quiet.

Isabella was so much pleased with her sister-in-law, that she never was happy when out of her company, nor did she ever see her in a passion but once. The greatest part of their time was spent in the country, and although they made a few excursions to Paris, yet it was rather for the sake of fashion than to comply with the common follies of the age.

Within a few miles of their country-house was the villa of a French nobleman with whom the marquis had been long acquainted, and with whom he often used to spend several hours in the day. One day as our two ladies were walking together in the garden, they saw the Marquis walking up to them with a gentleman, whom he presented to his sister under the name of Dumont.

Isabella, who had heard so much of this young gentleman from her brother, was struck with amazement at his fine appearance. He was kindly invited into the house, and, after some compliments were over, the Marquis desired that he would inform him and the ladies in what manner he had spent his time since he left him at the academy.

academy. This he readily complied with, and delivered himself in words to the following import. He told them, that when the Marquis left the academy, he was so much dejected with melancholy, that he knew not what to do, and soon after he was sent for by his father, who was then lying on his death bed. Upon his arrival at his father's house, he found him in the agonies of death, and, after he had embraced him in the most tender manner, he expired in the midst of his attendants, who all shed tears for the loss of so generous a benefactor.

Dumont knew not in what manner to act, for his father's affairs had been left in so perplexed a condition, that there was no great reason to expect that much would be left for him. He had some thoughts of finding out the marquis de Stainville, and for that purpose wrote a letter to him. Having sent this letter, he went and took a small house for the use of himself and his mother, who was then in a declining state of health. There he remained some time, but not having received any answer from the Marquis, he began to lose all manner of patience, and thought that his old friend had now forsaken him.

He could have born with all the insults of his creditors, but when he remembered that his father's last words were to be careful of my wife, it struck him to the heart, and he was ready to sink under the load of adverse fortune. Not hearing from the Marquis, he wrote a very pathetic letter to one of the dukes of France, wherein he enumerated in the most modest manner his distress, and the necessity he was under to seek for some sort of assistance. The Duke,

after some time, sent him notice by letter, that if he would come to Paris, he would procure him a small place, about fifty pounds a year. Accordingly he set out for the place, but in his way to Paris was taken ill of a fever, and for some weeks confined to his bed. The landlord with whom he lodged was a good-natured humane man, and finding that Dumont had very little money, he told him that nothing should be wanting on his part to serve him; he added, that there was a worthy young nobleman come to reside in the same neighbourhood, and he doubted not but he would be his friend, if he knew his misfortunes.

From this time till some few days afterwards he was so violently ill, that there was but little hopes of his recovery, till the fever happening to take a favourable turn, he asked his landlady, who was the generous person by whose good natured benevolence he had been supported during his illness. She told him, that it was the Marquis de Stainville, whose goodness in that neighbourhood was become even a proverbial expression. Dumont had no sooner heard the name of the Marquis mentioned, than he started up out of his bed, and asked both the Landlord and the Landlady whether they were not mistaken. They told him they were not, for he had married the daughter of a nobleman in that part of the country, and for some time had resided there.

Dumont began to think that the landlord was mistaken, and recollecting that he had just sent a letter to the marquis, could not conceive in what manner it had miscarried; but then when he began to recollect that he was newly married, he

he imagined that the continual hurry of gaiety and dissipation might have made him forget him. This, however, he could no ways reconcile with his general character, nor with many particular instances of friendship he had shewn him. He thought that no bonds, no obligations, nor any temporary pleasures, would have ever detached him from him. At last he recollected that his letter might have miscarried, and therefore, still confiding in the goodness of his worthy friend the marquis, he sat down to consider what were the most proper methods to be used in order to make himself known to him.

While he was musing in this labyrinth of uncertainty, not knowing what to do, his landlord came into his chamber, and informed him that the Marquis de Stainville was just coming up, and if he pleased he might see him, for he would pass by the window. Dumont did not hesitate one moment, but running to the door saw the marquis, who clasped him in his arms, and rejoiced that he had met with his long-lost friend. Their mutual congratulations were too tender to be expressed, for they felt more than they could utter; and Dumont found that the reason why the marquis never received his letter, was because it was directed to him at Paris, while he was at his country-seat.

It was then agreed upon, that Dumont should, notwithstanding the infirm state of his health, go and reside at the house of the marquis, where in a short time he perfectly recovered; for the company of the ladies, and the conversation of his friend, dispelled from his mind all those gloomy thoughts that had so long preyed upon it. As

a man of feeling he was fond of society ; but the pleasure resulting from all such enjoyments, was in a manner doubly heightened, when he came to reflect that he was now in the house of that nobleman, in whose company his innocent hours had been spent ; who had gone over the classics with him ; who had intrusted him with all his secrets ; who had ever been his friend ; and who, now that he was in distress, had it in his power to be his protector, and more than generous benefactor.

He had not been long in the house of the marquis, when he discovered a passion for Isabella, which though concealed under the most awkward gestures, was yet genuine and sincere. He was afraid that his unfortunate dependent state on her brother, would be a bar to all his hopes ; but still he trusted in the strength of that friendship, which had so long subsisted between them. But the greatest difficulty was, the marquis's lady had a brother who happened to arrive at the same time, who became enamoured with Isabella as soon as he saw her. This was a most shocking stroke to Dumont, who was not prepared for it ; and he began to consider whether he should not give up all thoughts of happiness, rather than be the occasion of the least moment's uneasiness to his generous benefactor. The marquis seemed to be sensible that his sister and Dumont were enamoured of each other ; but, like a prudent man, he said nothing on the subject, leaving the whole to be discussed by themselves.

But his lady was not so complaisant, at least she was not so disinterested ; for her brother, having revealed his passion to her, she said all she
could

could to second his suit. She took every opportunity of leaving them alone, but there was nothing that could make the beautiful Isabella in love with the young nobleman. When he spoke on that subject it was in a manner nauseous to her, and she considered it as little better than a sort of penance to which she was condemned by the tyranny of custom, and the fashion of the age.

Dumont seemed convinced in his own mind, that the lovely Isabella had not the least regard for him, though her soul was fixed upon him; and therefore, under pretence that he was anxious to know in what manner his mother lived, he desired permission of the marquis to visit her. The marquis, who was all good-nature, readily complied with his request in such a friendly and honourable manner, as must ever redound to his fame. The sensible reader will guess what this was, and the compassionate will feel it.

He took a most affectionate leave of his friends, but he fixed his eyes upon Isabella in such a striking manner, as could not easily be forgotten. Love, grief, and anxiety, were painted in his countenance; he was big with utterance, but he could not speak.

As soon as he was gone, poor Isabella gave herself up to despair. Nothing could afford her any solid satisfaction, and, at last, as a favour, she begged of the young nobleman that he would trouble her no more, but return home to his father. This however had not the desired effect, for the young nobleman went immediately to his sister, and told her that he could never be happy till he was in possession of the dear Isabella. It
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is not to be wondered at that his sister said all she could to make him happy, but Isabella had taken her final resolution, and nothing could divert her from it. She knew her sister-in-law would become an advocate for her brother, but she was determined to withstand every persuasion, and at last to give her hand to the man whom she loved.

While she was musing in this melancholy manner, her brother entered her chamber, to intercede in favour of the young nobleman, but was told by Isabella, that he must proceed no farther, because that nobleman was one whom she could never love. The marquis then told her, he should be unhappy, for his lady could not live unless her brother should arrive at the summit of his wishes, while on the other hand he could not bear to see his sister unhappy, so that he must be miserable which ever way it went.

Isabella could not refrain any longer from tears, and at last pronounced the word Dumont. Her brother stopped her short, by telling her, there was no occasion to say any more, for from the first he had beheld their growing passion, and it had often given him pleasure. He had often wished to see them married, which would have taken place had not his lady's illness prevented it.

Accident, however, soon relieved them from this perplexity, for a young lady happening to come to dine with the marquis, his brother-in-law fell in love with her, and in a few weeks they were married, to the inexpressible joy of Isabella,

Isabella, who was now delivered from one who could never be the object of her affections.

When Dumont returned, the marquis received him in the most friendly manner, and after telling him that he was no stranger to his passion for his sister, called the young lady into the chamber, and joining their hands together, said, "My dear friend, I here make you a present of such a value that none but Dumont is worthy of."

The day was fixed for meeting, when both our lovers were to be married, but, in the mean time, Isabella found a letter in an unknown hand in her chamber, in which was written an earnest request, that if she had the least regard to her happiness she would for ever refrain from seeing Dumont.

This was one of the most unexpected strokes she had ever met, and she soon discovered that it came from one of whom she had no suspicion. The truth is, and there is little doubt but it will surprise the reader, Doriménio, lady to the marquis, notwithstanding her being married, had actually fallen deeply in love with Dumont. She followed him through all the groves where he used to walk, and although he did every thing to shun her, and at the same time conceal her passion from her husband, yet it became more violent every day.

The marquis, who had discovered something from the servants, became melancholy, and on the evening before the nuptials were to take place, Doriménio having broken through all bounds of decency, went into the chamber of Dumont, where she sat down on the bedside by him drowned in tears. Notice of this being sent to the marquis,

quis, who was at a neighbouring village, he flew on the wings of rage to the place, and plunged his sword in the body of the unfortunate, though innocent Dumont.

The faithful, but unfortunate gentleman, lived long enough to undeceive his friend the marquis, who no sooner heard how his lady had acted, than he stabbed himself and fell to the ground. The wound indeed was dangerous, but not mortal, so that by the help of a surgeon he soon recovered, and having powerful friends at court, they interceded with the king, and obtained the marquis a pardon. Doriménio, the lady of the marquis, had sworn by all that was sacred, that Isabella should not be the wife of Dumont, and had bought poison, which she intended to have given her, but seeing the tragical scene already mentioned, she took it herself, and expired soon after.

The unfortunate marquis having made over his whole fortune equally to his mother and his sister, Isabella came over to London in company with a female acquaintance, who soon after caught the small-pox and died. As she had not had that distemper herself, and was afraid of catching it, she told them that as soon as she had settled some affairs she would return to France, and spend the remainder of her days in a convent.

David and the rest of the company were so well convinced of the severity of her sufferings, that they could not blame her for her resolution; for what are all the gaieties of this world to one who has lost, in a most tragical manner, every thing in it that she either loved or esteemed.

Next

Next day David and his friends went to see some watermen row for a badge, but they had not been long in their boat, when one of the barges coming up, splashed them in such a manner, that they were obliged to go on shore, and get into a house to dry their cloaths.

They had not been long there, when they heard a woman crying in the most bitter manner, and going into the room, saw her sitting drowned in tears, while a man, with his fist clenched, stood ready to knock her down. David intreated of the man to desist, for it seems the woman had done nothing to offend him; they had been married about ten years, and till within the last six months he had always used her well, nor could she account for this change in his behaviour.

Next day our hero, with his friends, spent the hours in the most agreeable manner, Cynthia entertaining them with what she had seen while at Paris, and the rest of the company making proper remarks on her narrative.

David and Valentine were both in love, but each had too much awe upon his mind to declare that passion to those who were the objects of their affections. The thoughts of Miss Johnson often returned on David's mind; for it is a curse to young people when they find themselves deceived in one whom they considered as a pattern of virtue. It leaves something like the remains of poison in the mind, and often leads them to consider every woman alike. The first love that young persons engage in, is like the laying a foundation, which if not done with great judgment, the building will fall to the ground.

One

One day while our little company were sitting together, they heard a most violent rap at the door, and going to see who it was, a gentleman richly dressed got out of a gilded chariot; but on coming in at the door, his foot slipped and he fell down. David, ever ready to assist those in distress, ran down stairs; upon which the gentleman begged that he would let him speak with the young lady whom he saw looking out at the window, meaning Camilla, as he had something of the utmost importance to communicate to her.

His request was immediately complied with, and the nobleman (for such he was) was introduced to Camilla. It seems his lordship was one who had been intimately acquainted with her father, but Valentine did not remember him, for he had been some time abroad. His lordship desired to speak with Camilla alone, upon which the company retired, while the conduct of Miss Johnson came once more into David's mind.

His lordship was one of those noblemen, who imagine that when a woman has once lost her reputation, money will make her the property of any one. He had known Camilla when she lived with her father, and although she was far below his rank, yet he knew that he could not at that time make any dishonourable proposals to her; but the story of her having gone off in so scandalous a manner with her own brother, gave him hopes that he might yet take her into keeping, according to the polite fashion.

As soon as they were alone, Camilla asked his lordship, in the most earnest manner, if he had any thing to communicate to her from her father;

to

to which he answered, that he had not seen him, but that his whole fortune was at her service, upon condition that she would come and live with him, or in other words, to be his kept mistress. Camilla told him, that no consideration should induce her to violate the obligations she was under to the divine Being, by prostituting her person to so base a purpose ; and his lordship, finding that no promises could prevail with her, left her in an abrupt manner, to her no small satisfaction.

She was immediately rejoined by the company, and having told them what an insult had been offered her, Valentine demanded to know what was his lordship's name, that he might punish him in the most exemplary manner. Poor David was so much shocked, that he knew not what to say ; for nothing could persuade him against believing that Camilla's affections had been previously engaged, notwithstanding the dishonourable proposal that had been made to her. He was lost in melancholy, and went to bed under pretence that he was indisposed ; and next morning Camilla received a letter from his lordship, offering to make her his wife.

In answer to this she sent him word, that she had reasons, which she did not chuse to disclose, why she did not accept of the proposal he had made her ; but, at the same time, took leave to thank him for his generous offer. This surprised his lordship a good deal, and at last he began to disbelieve all the stories he had heard of Camilla and her brother. He was mortified to the utmost, but time and dissipation wears off every thing.

Next

Next morning being Sunday, David proposed that they should go to church ; for, as he said, he had been under so many obligations to his Maker, that he could not be easy till he had, in the most grateful manner returned thanks. The rest of the company agreed to go with him, but what was Cynthia's surprise, when she saw the same clergyman mount the pulpit, whom she had travelled with in the stage-coach. When the service was over, the clergyman invited them into the vestry ; and David telling him that he should be glad of his company to dinner, the gentleman, in the most condescending manner, went along with them.

When dinner was over, Cynthia asked the clergyman if he had heard what was become of the atheist who was along with them in the coach ; to which he answered, that he staid some time bad at the inn, and finding there was no possibility of his recovery, he sent for a neighbouring clergyman, and renounced all his former opinions.

He added further, that he had left a declaration behind him to the following import :

He had received a liberal education, but no sooner did he become conversant with books, than he perused such as are at all times the most pernicious. These led him to the practice of every vice, and whoring, drinking, and gaming were his most favourite amusements. This led him from one stage of wickedness to another, till he divested himself of all regard to the most sacred obligations. Every iniquitous scheme that he could think of, was projected in order to raise money ; and the horrors of a prison made him
often

often blaspheme his Maker, in order to ingratiate himself with a club of atheists, some of whom had money, which he was willing to make free with. He had a brother who allowed him an annual salary, which was paid him quarterly; but such was his violent attachment to pleasure, that nothing could prevent him from throwing it away, as soon as he received it, in gaming-houses, or in the company of lewd women. In this manner he went on till he had ruined his constitution, and his body being one mass of corruption, there is no wonder that, when he broke his leg, the wound should turn to a mortification. Such was the end of an atheist; and the reflections made upon it by the worthy clergyman, were altogether to the purpose, namely instructing and entertaining.

The worthy clergyman having finished his narrative, David shed tears, and told him that the unhappy atheist was his own brother. That besides a yearly salary, he had employed other persons to carry money to him, without letting him know from whose hands it came; and that he would have been glad to have lived with him, could it have been possible to bring him to the practice of any religious duty whatever, but all in vain, he had no pleasure in any thing of a virtuous nature.

Camilla was charmed with such an act of benevolence in a brother; but before she had done speaking, a servant came up and informed them that there was a gentleman below, who wanted to speak with her. She did not hesitate one moment, but running down stairs, was caught in the arms of her aged father. The scene is too
affecting

affecting to be described ; for the young lady fell into fits, while her father carried her up stairs, saying, that dead or alive, she was still his. He was so much affected, that he did not recognize his dear son Valentine till such time as Camilla had recovered the use of her reason ; and then falling on his knees, he would have begged pardon of both his children, but they kindly prevented him, by telling him that while he was well, and they were still the objects of his love, they were happy.

The hurry of the old gentleman's spirits was such, that our little society, after getting him some refreshment, were obliged to put him to bed ; and next morning he told them that his wife was dead, and that he was now happy in having found his dear, though long-lost children. David was so much transported with the thoughts of seeing the father of his Camilla, that he fell on his knees before him, and begged that he would give him leave to converse one hour with her in private. This was readily complied with, for who can withstand the force of virtue.

The interview between the two lovers, was of too tender a nature to be described ; and Camilla thought herself extremely happy to be the object of so worthy a young gentleman's affections. Something however hung still heavy on her mind, and that was how to bring about a marriage between her brother and the adorable Cynthia.

David was sensible of the propriety of what she advanced ; and told her, that nothing could give him greater pleasure, than to see her and her brother happy. That as his poor wicked brother was dead, (and as he hoped, from a conviction
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of his guilt, now in eternal happiness) he had at least something to spare, and besides that he had enough to serve them. This revived Camilla's spirits, and running to her brother along with David, found him and Cynthia sitting together in the most melancholy manner; for Cynthia, who knew she had no fortune, had resolved not to disgrace the family by any connections with them, and therefore proposed setting out the next morning. David begged them to make themselves entirely easy, and acquiesce with each other in their proposals. Valentine was struck so with this new instance of generosity in his benefactor, that he knew not what to say; but his father coming in at the same time, both he and his sister fell on their knees to implore his blessing. A tender parent soon grants his blessing to a dutiful child; and the old gentleman, eyeing them with tears of compassion, said, that he had ten thousand pounds left, which should be equally divided between them. He then addressed himself to David, and implored every blessing upon him, for having in so generous and compassionate a manner rescued his dear children from misery, when they were on the point of starving.

David, for his part told him, that all he desired was to make Camilla his wife, and that the old gentleman would consent to his son's marriage with Cynthia. This the father readily agreed to. Every thing was settled, and David with Valentine were joined in wedlock with those amiable women, whose virtues, rather than their beauty, had made them the objects of their affection: Cynthia had a mind too philosophically turned, to make her wish for great things; so that, in possession

possession of her Valentine, she was satisfied with an easy independence. She knew that she had been the child of providence ever since her infancy ; she knew that David and Camilla were her friends, and while they had any thing to spare she was sure of it.

The old gentleman reaped the utmost satisfaction in the company of his beloved children ; he looked back to those days when they were the objects of his and their mother's affections ; he attempted to draw a veil over that part of his conduct when he married a second wife ; and, however severe his afflictions might be when he reflected what his children suffered, yet religion enabled him to turn the whole to the best advantage. A noble example to be copied after by all those who make a proper improvement of the occurrences of life.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

